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JAMES LESSLIE<sup>c</sup>  
OF  
TOPSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

AND SOME  
OF  
HIS DESCENDANTS

BY  
M. V. B. PERLEY



**1847916**

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# JAMES LESSLIE OF TOPSFIELD, MASS. AND SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS.

BY M. V. B. PERLEY.

THE learned research of Rev. George Lesslie and his faith in the origin and form of his name, and in his right to coat-armor, demand recognition. He invariably employed two esses in his sign-manual and impressed his seal with a griffin.

This Anglo-Saxon name in Hungary, its native home, was *lis lyn* (castle-on-lake), and it went into England, about 1067, with Bartholomew de Lislyn, a scion of Hungarian nobility, upon the recall of Prince Edward, "the Outlaw," to the English throne by the decrepit King Edward, "the Confessor." The recall miscarried; the king and the prince both died soon after the arrival of the prince and his family in England; but Margaret, daughter of the prince, married Malcolm III, Canmore, King of Scotland, and Bartholomew trusted his fortune with the fortune of the re-established king.

King Malcolm, recognizing Lislyn's nobility and learning, persuaded of his prowess and valor, and realizing the great value such a personage would be to the Crown, granted or leased to him a large tract of land in county Aberdeen, the equivalent, no doubt, of an earldom, and so conferred upon the possessor the highest rank below the royal family. The high consideration and courtesy of the king gave the Hungarian courtier a local habitation and a surname—Bartholomew of the *leased land*, which

NOTE.—The following persons have given material aid in this compilation: President Homan of Willamette University, Salem, Ore.; Ex-President Whitaker of Willamette University and Librarian Lockwood, Wesleyan Hall, Boston, Mass.; Mr. J. P. Litchfield, historian of the M. E. Memorial Church, Salem, Ore.; C. E. Leslie, Esq., St. Johnsbury, Vt.; Freeland D. Leslie, M. D. (No. 173); Horace G. Leslie, M. D. (No. 126); Mrs. Esther I. Blackwell (No. 96); and Mrs. Helen M. Worthen (No. 124).

in the Old or Norman French, the polished language in England at that time, and the fruitful mother of patronymics, is *lesse* for leased, and *ley*, *lea*, or *lie* for land,—which anglicized became Lesslie;\* and Bartholomew de Lesslie and his wife became the Adam and Eve of the race of Lesslies.

The Lesslie coat of arms† for Aberdeen, Scotland, the plainest and therefore the oldest and freighted with greatest honor, is *silver*, on a bend embattled *blue*, three buckles *gold*; the crest a griffin; motto: "Hold fast." This shield is indeed martial, and eminently characteristic of this clan, as illustrated in the call home of Gen. Alexander Leslie to organize an army against Cromwell's religious war, and in placing Gen. David Leslie as Field-Marshal at Dunbar, against Cromwell himself.

This quotation from the extensive foreign correspondence of Horace G. Leslie, M. D. (No. 126), is pertinent here :—

"Many branches of the family live in England and Ireland, and their pedigrees are easily traced to this original :

Bartholomew,	founder,	died 1121.
Malcolm,	charter,	died 1165.
Norman,	charter,	died 1224.
Norino (Norman?),	charter,	died 1248.
Sir Norman,		died 1282.

\*Col. Charles Leslie, K. T., says in his three-volumed history of British Leslies, quoting Vesstigan's poem, a Leslie's duel with a foreign knight:

Between the Lessley and the mair  
He slew the knight and left him there.

The Colonel also says: "It is beyond doubt that Bartholomew did obtain from the King a grant of land in county Aberdeen."—*Vol. I, p. 6.*

†The totem of the clan Leslie is a GOLD BUCKLE. Two shields bearing different ordinaries are of very high antiquity—one, as above, with an embattled bend, or military scarf; the other with a fesse or belt, eminently chivalrous, indicating the office of a chap-eron, perhaps, to the Queen, the motto "Grip fast" to the belt, his caution in case of danger. The other motto, "Hold fast," is perhaps more military, as "Hold the fort." About the year 1500 this male descent lapsed, and the inheritress adopted the lozenge-shaped escutcheon.

Sir Andrew de Leslie, who married Mary, daughter of Sir Alexander Abernothy, and received the baronies of Ballinbreich, Cairny and Rothés. His greatgrandson William had a son George, who died 1467, and who was great-great-grandfather of the celebrated Gen. Alexander Leslie.

Sir Andrew,	1325-1353.
Sir Andrew,	1353-1398.
David,	died 1439.

“No name stands higher in Scotland than Leslie.”

1. JAMES LESSLIE, the immigrant, father of Rev. George Lesslie, styled “Rev.” in “Contributions to the Ecclesiastical History of Essex County” and in Gage’s “History of Rowley,” was son of a Scotch covenantor, who lived in Coleraine,\* county Londonderry, Ireland. The name is now (1912) known in that vicinity.† He came to this country in 1729, with wife Margaret (Sheer-ar), and located in Topsfield, where maybe he lived till the last half of the year 1754. His son bought land in

\*The level area in the northwesterly part of the town of Topsfield, lying west of the B. & M. R. R. tracks and south of the land of the late Arthur W. Phillips, has long been known as “Coleraine.” Mention of this locality name appears in a deed as early as 1797, conveying land at this point. The appearance of this unusual name at once suggests a connection with the Irish home of James Lesslie, and who probably lived in this locality which lies on both sides of the Topsfield-Boxford boundary line. James Lesslie paid taxes in Boxford in 1740 and 1741, and those years only. The Topsfield assessors’ records do not go back far enough to absolutely prove a Topsfield residence for him.

†Mr. Maxwell Given wrote to Dr. Leslie (No. 126), from Coleraine, Ire., 27 Feb., 1906, “I have just discovered that the Leslie family is descended from Henry Leslie, who became bishop of Down and Connor 4 Nov., 1635. He was son of James, grandson of George, 4th Earl of Rothés, by his second wife, Agnes Summer-ville.”

Super-Registrar S. Lecky wrote from Coleraine, Ire., on 25, 3, 1912: “The name once resided in Castletodry, near here, but not now. Grandchildren are in Kilcanny, Coleraine. The name is mentioned in lists of aldermen and representatives in Parliament. Ireland had no public vital records till 1864, when compulsory registration began.”

Linebrook\* for a house, 1 July, 1753, and when the house was finished in 1754, father, mother and son occupied it, and Mr. James Lesslie and his wife had or were given charge of the communion table, Tuesday, Dec. 31, of that year. On 20 March, 1763, it was voted that he keep the key of the meeting-house, sweep it six times a year, and bring water for baptisms, for one pound a year. Giving Mr. Lesslie the service of making ready the table was wise, especially in winter and stormy weather, since the deacons lived one and a half and two miles away. It was no interference with their office, but lessened the work or care of busy men. "Father Lesslie" died 12 May, 1763. The date of mother Lesslie's death is not recorded.

Children of James and Margaret Lesslie, born in Ireland :

2. ELIZABETH, d. 21 Sept., 1736, in Topsfield.
3. JAMES, d. 30 Sept., 1736, in Topsfield.
4. ESTHER, m. 17 March, 1737-8, Hugh Lynde; lived in Topsfield, where her servant, a child, d. 8 or 18 Aug., 1760, and she d. 2 Oct., 1778.
5. JOSEPH, m. 27 March, 1755, Mercy Dresser. He was taxed in Topsfield, 1761, 3s. 10d. 2f., and his meeting-house rates were abated, 1761, 6s. 4d. "About 1764," reads Felt's History of Ipswich, "Joseph, brother of Rev. George Lesslie, returning to West Ipswich from a residence at St. John's, was drowned, with his wife and seven children." These baptisms and deaths of their children are recorded: James, bapt. 11 Jan., 1756, d. 10 Oct., 1756—*Linebrook rec.*; James, bapt. 10 April, 1757, d. 26 Sept., 1758, aged 18 months, of "convulsion fits"—*Byfield Chh. rec.*; Lynde, bapt. 13 May, 1759; Joseph, bapt. 10 Aug., 1760—*Topsfield rec.*; Mary, bapt. 2 Oct., 1763—*Boxford 1st Chh. rec.*
6. GEORGE, b. 25 Nov. 1727.

\*The citizens of South Rowley and West Ipswich met and resolved to establish a territorial parish, 12 April, 1744. The proposed parish was incorporated 5 June, 1746. The incorporated territory was named, 27 June, 1747, Linebrook Parish, because of these streams in its boundary line: Ipswich River, Gravelly brook, Bull brook, Batchelder's brook, Strait brook and Howlett's brook. While the corporate function of the parish has been ignored, the territory has been called Linebrook.

6. REV. GEORGE LESSLIE, A. M., was the fifth child of James and Margaret (Sheerar) Lesslie, and was born 25 Nov., 1727, and, as the History of Washington, N. H., reads, in Coleraine, Ireland. He was brought to America in 1729, or, as per Rev. J. S. Griswold's "New Hampshire Churches," "came from Ireland, when he was eighteen months old, with his parents, who located in Topsfield." He fitted for college,\* it is presumed, under Rev. John Emerson, minister of Topsfield. In 1748 he was teaching school in Boxford, and seems to have taught there previously for several years. He graduated from Harvard College, Wednesday, 6 July, 1748. His class had twenty-four members, of whom were George Leonard and Artemas Ward, afterwards congressmen; Perez March and John Rand, librarians; and seven gospel ministers, including Jacob Cushing, S. T. D., and "Georgius Lesslie." All but Ward, Brown and Samuel French took the master's degree.

Mr. Lesslie was admitted to membership in the Topsfield church on profession of faith, 5 March, 1749, and there is no doubt that he studied divinity with his early instructor, Rev. Mr. Emerson. He began to preach at Linebrook, 14 Aug., 1748, the sixth Sabbath after his graduation; and when he began to preach as a candidate for the Linebrook pastorate, 19 March, 1749, he had supplied there thirty-one Sabbaths, and twenty-nine of them before he joined a church, according to the following record:

"At a legal Parish meeting 21 March, 1748-9, Thomas Potter, moderator, Mark Howe, clerk, voted that Abm How have for his keeping Mr. Lesslie for time past seven pounds old tenor—07-00-0; Voted to give to Mr. John Smith for keeping Mr. Lesslie 3 Sabbaths fifteen shillings old tenor, 0-15-0; Voted to allow Mr. Lesslie six pounds a Sabbath for the time past, before he began upon probation with us which was ye 3d Sabbath in March current," viz., the 19th. His call to settle was accepted 16 Aug., 1749.

\*Harvard College records Mr. Lesslie's birth-date as 25 Nov., 1727; his age at matriculation, 16 years, 8 months; and his entrance into college, 26 Feb., 1745, six months after he registered as belonging in Topsfield.

Mr. Felt's History of Ipswich records that Mr. Leslie, "having preached one year," was ordained and installed pastor of the Linebrook church, 15 Nov., 1749, the day of the organization of the church.

The Parish record in this relation reads: "Sept. 21, John Smith, moderator, Voted, Mr. Lesslie's ordination to be, Wednesday, Nov. 15, 1749; Voted, Mr. Wigglesworth, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Wally, all of Ipswich, Mr. Jewett and Mr. Chandler of Rowley, Mr. Parsons of Byfield, Mr. Emerson of Topsfield, be the ministers with their messengers that are to assist in ordaining Mr. George Lesslie; Voted the following a committee to invite the ministers: Thomas Potter, John Abbott, Jonathan Burpee, Isaac Davis, James Hibbert."

Mr. Lesslie's dismissal from the Topsfield church was Friday, 6 Oct., 1749. His settlement at Linebrook was £700, old tenor, or \$311.08, and his salary was to be £100 lawful money and twelve cords of wood.

Mr. Lesslie exchanged land with his parish, 1 July, 1753, for land "to set a house on," but he recorded none of the deeds given him, and we have no knowledge of his realty purchases. The land adjoining the meeting-house, given to the parish 13 Feb., 1743, by Joseph Metcalf, was bounded on the north by land of Nathaniel Bradstreet. The location of the land exchanged with the parish, in 1753, was on the north, "adjoining the parish land at the westerly end of said parish land." The land exchanged (leased for 999 years, for a cemetery) was 19 rods long and 2 3-4 rods wide and contained 53 square rods; the land "to set a house on" began at Wicom's corner and ran southwest 23 rods 7 feet, then westerly 2 rods 2 feet, then easterly 16 rods, then 12 rods to the first mentioned bounds, containing 107 square rods. He built a two-story house and a barn on it. They stood a few rods west of his meeting-house. The house was 40 by 20 feet and the barn 44 by 23 feet. The house, some years ago, was burned down, as was his second house, in Washington's great conflagration, and the barn, some years later, tumbled down. He sold his entire interest there, 13 Sept., 1780, to Elijah and Allen Foster, both of Ipswich, for £80. The sale included the home-

stead, 107 square rods; also a piece of land he bought of Knowlton; also another piece westward of the above, bounded by Capt. Thomas Foster, westerly by a proprietors' road, northwesterly by Jeremiah Ellsworth, northerly by New Road, easterly by county road, southerly and easterly by parish land; also another piece on the opposite side of the county road. He sold land in Boxford, "4 1-2 acres and 17 poles," for £200, to Thomas Perley, jr., 2 March, 1780.

We cannot locate his home during the period between his ordination in 1749 and the building of his house in 1753-4. He had a school in Linebrook in 1752, a fact that argues a home there. We may conclude that the family, parents and son, removed to Linebrook, as soon as practical, after his settlement, and possibly occupied the house that stood some distance back of the New cemetery—a Conant home, which some years later was sold to John Perley, sr., and removed to its present location (1915), the second house west of Garrette's hill.

His school doubtless began before 1752. Many students resorted to his home for instruction. In modern phrase, his home was a popular boarding school. He taught the useful sciences and fitted young men for college and for the ministry. Here are a few names, between 1752 and 1759, that are found in the parish records:—Symonds, son of Capt. Baker; Asa, son of Samuel Bradstreet; Timothy and Andrew Fuller; Thomas Stickney; Samuel Perley; Thomas Gowing; Moses Nichols; Samuel Porter; and Mark Howe, who paid £6 for six months' tuition.

Mr. Lesslie was one of the organizers of the Essex North Association of Ministers. His is the sixth name signed to their covenant. The Association met with him 13 Nov., 1770, when the matter of Rev. Christopher B. Marsh's church was considered and the action of the church was unanimously sustained.

Mr. Lesslie's publications were confined to occasional sermons. Of those one was in possession of Horace G. Lesslie, M. D., of Amesbury (No. 126), two are in the Essex Institute, and there was one preached at Seabrook (now Hampton Falls) at the ordination of one of his



divinity students, Samuel Perley, 31 Jan., 1765. One of the sermons preserved in the Essex Institute was preached in the North Parish Church of Newburyport, 12 Aug., 1779. The day was Thursday, and probably the sermon was a part of the usual lecture service. The topic was, "The nature and tendency of the sin of selfishness." The text was 2 Timothy, 3: 2: "For men shall be lovers of their own selves." It was a war sermon. He says: "Fourthly, what we have heard points out one special ground or reason of the perils and distresses of the present day. . . . Criminal self-love is at the bottom of the present unnatural contest between these states." The discourse is unimpassioned, logical, and sharply forceful; it is a Christian minister rebuking the heinous sin of the British ministry. It expressed the prevailing sentiment of the general public, and immediately appeared in print. He left also two sermons in stenography, a page of which is here shown, same size as the original.

Mr. Lesslie attended Ezra Ross at the gallows, in Worcester, 2 July, 1778. Ezra's parents were members of Mr. Lesslie's church, and Ezra, of course, was a member of the church society. Ezra was sixteen years of age, the youngest of seventeen children, of whom nine were then living, and four of the nine were in the war. Returning from his first enlistment, young Ezra fell sick in Brookfield, Mass., and was nursed to health in the home of Mr. John Spooner. Mr. Spooner was a retired lumberman, passively disposed and of simple tastes. His wife was Bathsheba, daughter of Chief-Justice Ruggles. She never knew the want of a luxury that money could buy and was haughty and imperious, and the house was divided against itself. On Ezra's return from his second enlistment, gratitude prompted him to visit his benefactress. He was youthful, had a fine physique, and stature far beyond his years; he was active, social, witty, handsome; she was artful, seductive, profligate. Mr. Spooner was in her way and he was removed. Four persons were arrested, including Mrs. Spooner and young Ezra. The trial was short and the way to the gallows was short. Several petitions, because of her delicate condition and of his youth and accidental knowledge of the deed, were



of no avail. Linebrook was stricken with profound grief; the church appointed a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer, which was solemnly kept.

Mr. Lesslie was a justice of the peace, probate attorney and conveyancer. His work is often met with in the records. He wrote a very legible hand, very suited to please copyists. He seems to

*George Lesslie*

have cared little to record his own deeds, and the sources of only two pieces, as above, are known, except a right in

Bull brook pasture, given to his homestead by the Commoners, the line on the north side of the road beginning about eight rods on the west side of Egypt River bridge, and so across said river till it comes to a stake and stones forty-two rods from the first bound. Former owners had digged a well there and a parish committee adjusted the cost, and also 26 March, 1764, employed Thomas Foster to fence in the right, before 20 April, with a lawful rail fence. He built thirty-six rods, showing the river there then to have been about one hundred feet wide.

During Mr. Lesslie's pastorate the population of his parish diminished greatly. One very apparent cause was the formation of a colony in New Brunswick, which took his own brother, his wife's parents and uncles and others.\* Yet Mrs. Ruth Conant, daughter of Dea. Philemon Foster and mother of Dea. William Foster Conant, furnishes a creditable labor for the Master. She wrote: "The church was embodied of thirteen male members. In that year twenty-two members were added. From 1749 to 1770 forty-six members were added, making eighty-nine in all. There is no account of other additions during Mr. Lesslie's pastorate."

Besides the diminution of population, there came the depreciation of paper money, and as a climax, the parish declined to make up the deficiency. Mr. Lesslie's affairs were precarious, beyond the power of common faith.

\*Raymond's "Saint John River" says: "Many of the settlers of the Maugerville township came, in 1762-1763, from Rowley, Mass. There were Burpees, Barkers, Perleys, Jewetts, Palmers, and others."

He had arrived at Troas ; he heard a voice from Washington, N. H., "Come over and help us," and it seemed to him a fruitful relief. He thereupon determined upon a dismission from the pastorate, 22 Oct., 1779, a council convened 4 Nov., 1779, advised that the pastorate be dissolved, 30 November, the date that had been agreed upon by the church and the pastor. His transfer of membership was 10 Dec., 1779. His wife asked for a transfer of her membership to Washington on 3 Aug., 1780, which was voted 11 Sept., 1780.

Once, during Mr. Lesslie's pastorate at Linebrook, the distinguished pulpit orator and nation-wide evangelist, Rev. George Whitefield, preached. The attraction at Linebrook may have been the common factor in Calvinistic Methodism and Presbyterian Calvinism. The date of the occasion is unknown. A forenoon in September, 1770, Mr. Whitefield dedicated the South meeting-house in New Rowley, now Georgetown. The exact date of that important event is also unknown. It is judged that the day of dedication at New Rowley, which Gage's History of Rowley says may have been 12, 13, or 22, Wednesday, Thursday or Saturday, would have been opportune for the great occasion at Linebrook. The church was early filled to repletion, and the multitude, some 2000 to 3000 persons, was obliged to occupy the open field. On the Ellsworth road, north side, 14 rods from the corner at the county road, is a large flat rock or ledge, with perpendicular front, that became the improvised pulpit of the reverend clergyman. It was beautifully situated to the open field and afforded a fine opportunity for his stentorian voice and impressive eloquence. The ledge is known as "Pulpit Rock." This brief episode was told the writer by his uncle John Perley, whose father owned a residence, half a mile perhaps from the meeting-house ; also by Nathaniel and Ephraim Foster, both octogenarians now (1913), whose grandfather owned a house and reared a family about eighty rods from "Pulpit Rock." Later their grandfather Allen Foster owned the Lesslie homestead. Those gentlemen were familiar with the territory and knew well its colloquial history.

Mr. Lesslie and his family left Linebrook for Wash-

ington, N. H., 6 March, 1780. They were nine days making the journey of eighty miles. At that time there were no public roads worthy the name. Intelligence from the country around was only occasional. Only once in two or three months was news received from Boston. Washington was originally Monadnock, No. 8. It was settled in 1768, and called Camden, and 13 Dec., 1776, was incorporated as Washington. By a vote of the town proposals were made to Mr. Lesslie in September, 1779; his salary was to be fifty-five pounds, payable in rye at four shillings per bushel, corn at three shillings, beef at two and one-half cents per pound, and pork at four cents per pound, with other eatables and wearing apparel at equivalent rates, and his settlement was to be two hundred acres of land, "to him and his heirs forever,"—as provided in the town grant to the first minister. Rev. Mr. Kindall was chosen to transmit the proposals. Robert Mann was to wait on Mr. Lesslie the first week in November for his answer. The agreement was made and the people of Washington by subscription furnished money to transfer his effects. In 1794 the town voted to pay his salary in money.

His privations the first year were great. Provisions, in many instances, could not be obtained without going from thirty to forty miles. His first winter was unusually long. Snow fell 19 October, two feet deep, and remained till late in the next spring. During that spring, twenty-seven of his people's cattle died of starvation. Mr. Lesslie lost his only cow. Fasting and prayer were observed on account of the sad prospects. One whole winter his family was without salt, and a bushel in the spring cost \$5.

The church was organized 9 May, 1779, but its original records for the first twenty years are lost. Mr. Lesslie was installed its pastor 12 July, 1780, in a barn belonging to John Safford, when the pastor was fifty-three years old. He was known as "Priest Lesslie," the common title of the day.

The first move to build a meeting-house was in 1785. The timbers were got out in 1786, all cut and hewed in the old of the moon in September and October, and the

building was finished in 1789, when the town raised £80 for the purpose. Mr. Lesslie's son David was the first sexton, and served the first year for 3s. 6d.

Mr. Lesslie's character was essentially Scotch—strong, courageous, active, efficient, stable, true. He had faith in his ability to do whatever he undertook. Very few persons have had better visible ground of faith than he had. He belonged to that brilliant Scotch-Irish intellect that planted the Presbyterian faith in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and gave us our twenty-seventh national president. He worked harmoniously with Congregational Calvinism, as might be expected, and was regarded as a strong defender of the faith.

Early in his ministry he formulated, as follows, his faith and practice: "I take God, the Father, to be my chief good and highest end; I take God, the Son, to be my only Lord and Saviour; I take God, the Holy Spirit, to be my Sanctifier, Teacher, Guide and Comforter; I take the Truth of God to be my rule in all my actions; I take the people of God to be my people in all conditions. I do likewise devote and dedicate unto the Lord my whole self, all that I am, all that I have, and all I can do. This I do deliberately, sincerely, freely and forever." His recognition of Young's "Column of true majesty in man," in covenanting with himself, is an act sorrowfully unusual, but worthy of the man. It shows his estimate of individual effort and character; it shows his lofty aspiration and purpose, his implicit trust in the Scriptures and their Author, how a man "may be thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

His environment was unequal to his ability. He would have adorned a college professorship and won distinction as a barrister. He was a clear thinker and writer, and was held in high repute as a logician; he was among the strongest defenders of the faith in the sphere of his labors.

Felt's History of Ipswich says of him: "He fitted many pupils for college, and others for the ministry. He had a strong mind, was a noted scholar, and a pious minister." Rev. James Bradford, in Gage's History of Rowley, says: "He possessed a powerful intellect, was

an eminent scholar, and a pious and useful minister." Rev. J. F. Griswold, in *New Hampshire Churches*, writes: "He was a man of correct sentiments, a good scholar, and of studious habits, conscientious, of strict integrity, and had the confidence of his people." His life with his people was a constant benediction. He preached morality, by word and conduct, as fundamentally essential to a correct religious life—a life that was his. His people had great cause to rejoice in his labors and to revere his memory.

Soon after Mr. Lesslie left Linebrook, he was invited to a professorship in Dartmouth College, says a family tradition. In this regard, President Tucker of the College, 21 Feb., 1900, wrote: "I have not been able to find any trace of such appointment. This, however, is purely negative testimony, for our records from 1770 to 1780 are very meagre." We understand that the college was then engaged in making history more than in writing it. The history, however, is quite adequate to our purpose. The President, Rev. Dr. Wheelock, died 24 April, 1779, leaving the presidency, the Dartmouth pulpit and the chair of divinity vacant. The presidency was immediately occupied by the Doctor's son John, who had been educated in the college and been a tutor there, and who had been a politician of honorable distinction and an officer in the Revolutionary army; the pulpit was occupied by the eminent evangelist, Sylvanus Ripley; but the chair of theology remained vacant till 1782. Recalling now that Mr. Lesslie received proposals from Washington in September, 1779, made arrangements with Mr. Robert Mann in the first week in November, was dismissed 30 November, and left Linebrook 6 March, 1780, Mr. Lesslie and the Dartmouth professorship were brought face to face in the eye of the alert young president.

Mr. Lesslie's ability, learning, scholarship, classical repute, his school fitting for college and the ministry, his status among literary men and his Presbyterian views were a temptation to the college, and aptly support the tradition. Mr. Griswold says he declined the professorship on account of "the encouragement he had given the Washington people to settle with them." Yes, but

that "answer" or agreement with Mr. Mann in November could not be evaded. He must decline the chair.

In the fall of 1790 appeared a Catholic missionary, Rev. John Thayer, later Catholic priest of Boston. He was a native of Boston, had traveled in Europe, and sojourned in Rome. He died in Limerick, Ire., 26 Nov., 1815. Rev. Dr. Bentley's diary, Salem, Mass., March 26, 1791, says, Mr. Thayer challenged all the Protestant clergymen to a doctrinal disputation; that he announced a proposed conference with Rev. George Lesslie; that the latter did not appear—till later. Let that be so, the delay was probably occasioned by the deep snows and driving storms incident to those months in our early years.

Mr. Thayer says :\* "The occasion of my discussion with Mr. Lesslie was an advertisement I published a few weeks after I returned to my native town, 24 Nov., 1790." Mr. Thayer offered in the *Boston Gazette* to preach in any adjoining town and answer questions; he offered, 26 Jan., 1791, to preach, or debate, or print in any newspaper that would furnish space. To the last proposition the *Gazette* agreed, and "soon after" Mr. Thayer published his first paper—a statement of doctrinal belief, covering, in book form, five duo-decimo pages.

Mr. Lesslie headed his reply with this sentiment and obeyed the precept:

Unus apex verbi ratione valentior omni,  
Milleque decretis conciliisque prior.

He covered three pages. He stated the topic and the criterion. In that he was fair, judicious, wise. He proposed "The Pope's Infallibility," and announced that "No arguments will be looked upon and treated as worthy of notice but such as are evidently drawn from and grounded upon the sacred Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments."

Mr. Thayer's rejoinder covered twenty-eight pages, as if

"By apostolic blows and knocks  
He'd prove his doctrine orthodox."

\*Mr. Thayer's pamphlet may be found in the Boston Athenaeum. (Tr. B. 149, p. 393.)



He stated that Mr. Lesslie's fourth objection, which he takes for granted, is what all Catholics deny, viz.: "That the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are a complete and perfect rule of faith. On the contrary, the doctrine of our church is that the word of God is the *complete* and *perfect rule* of our faith, which word we contend is not *wholly* contained in the Scriptures, but is in part transmitted to us in the traditions of the church."

Thus the doughty challenger was vanquished by his own admission. Imagine a man discussing religion without Scripture, only as it served him. He admitted that Scripture alone did not support his dogma. He taught an insufficiency of Scripture contrary to St. Paul (2 Tim. 3 : 16), and he taught traditions, as did the Jews whom Jesus rebuked (Mark 7 : 7) ; and Mr. Lesslie retired from the contest. In October, 1811, Dr. Bentley wrote in his Diary: "Mr. Leslie's manners were singular, but Mr. Thayer, the Catholic convert, told me his mind was powerful,"—significant remark! Thayer had met Lesslie.

It is very probable that the "proposed conference" referred to above was not "proposed" by Mr. Lesslie. He might not have known of the challenge at all, since news, in dead of winter, reached Washington not oftener than monthly. He was considered strong in defence of the doctrines of his church, and was, no doubt, urged to the war of words.

Mr. Lesslie married 26 Oct., 1756, Miss Hephzibah Burpee, youngest daughter of Dea. Jonathan and Mehit-able (Jewett) Burpee of Rowley-Linebrook, Rev. Jedediah Jewett of Rowley officiating. Her parents and uncle were among the early settlers of New Brunswick,\* Canada. She was born in Rowley, 31 March, 1738, and died in Washington, N. H., 11 April, 1814. Mr. Lesslie was pastor at Washington twenty years—till he died, 11 Sept.,

\*Raymond's "Saint John River" says: Dea. Jonathan Burpee, first deacon of the Linebrook church, became also first deacon of the First church in Mougerville, N. B. His grandson David was sheriff of county Sunbury and the first school-teacher in New Brunswick. Among his descendants was Hon. Isaac Burpee, minister of customs, and E. R. Burpee, manager of the "Western Extension" railroad.

1800, when he was seventy-three years old. The town voted a headstone for his grave and the following epitaph:—

“He was a man of brilliant genius and great learning, and eminent for piety and morality.”

Dr. F. D. Leslie (No. 173) saw the stone, 18 Sept., 1904, in a good state of preservation, but tipped over, and the lot moss-covered. He set the stone in cement and seeded the ground—good for another century.

Eight of their children were born in Rowley and one died there, the ninth was born in Washington. The hours and minutes of their births are on record. On the list of these births the numbers before the months are respectively the days of the births and the baptisms. The latter were all on Sundays.

Their names are erroneously printed in Ipswich vital records, where George's birth-date is given to David, and David's birth-date and George's name are omitted.

Children of Rev. George and Hephzibah Lesslie:—

7. GEORGE, 7: 26, P. M., 12-15 Jan., 1758.
8. DAVID, 6: —, A. M., 17-17 Dec., 1758.
9. JAMES, 10: 24, A. M., 10-15 March, 1761.
10. JONATHAN, 1: —, A. M., 5-5 June, 1763.
11. WILLIAM, 3: 15, A. M., 4-10 Aug., 1766.
12. HEPHZIBAH, 3: 30, A. M., 19-25 March, 1770.
13. JOSEPH, 12: 26, —, 28 Feb.-6 March, 1774.
14. MEHITABLE, 5: —, A. M., 5-6 Sept., 1778.
15. ELIZABETH, b. 27 May, 1782; lived in Washington, where she d. in old age.

7. GEORGE LESSLIE was born 12 Jan., 1758, and went to Washington with his parents, at the age of twenty-two. He married, 28 Oct., 1787, Miriam Burpee of that place. She was born in Rowley in 1761 (baptized 28 June), to Sergt. David and Sarah (Barker) Burpee. The sergeant was first cousin to her husband's mother. He sold his homestead on “Proprietor's Road,” 2 April, 1783, and removed to Washington, N. H. George, jr., was a farmer in Henniker, N. H., where he died 2 April, 1813, and his widow 13 Dec., 1817.



## Children of George, jr., and Miriam Lesslie :—

16. POLLY, b. — May, 1788; m. — Greenleaf.
17. HANNAH, b. 26 Sept., 1789; m. John Hartshorn.
18. DAVID, b. 7 May, 1792; m. Patty Greenfield.
19. GEORGE, b. 31 March, 1794; m. Lucy Stearns.
20. HEPHZIBAH, b. 27 May, 1796; m. 10 Aug., 1828, Abraham Kimball, b. 4 Oct., 1800, to Abraham and Esther, of Henniker.
21. MARTHA, b. 30 April, 1798; m. Levi Washington.
22. SALLY, b. 13 Oct., 1800; m. Bartlett Mack.
23. BETSEY, b. — Oct., 1804; m. — Hardy.

8. DAVID LESSLIE was born in Rowley, 17 Dec., 1798, went to Washington with his parents, and married Margaret —.

## Children of David and Margaret Lesslie :—

24. POLLY, b. 3 April, 1792, in Washington.
25. GEORGE, b. 1794, in Washington, and, it is said, settled in the West.
26. CLARISSA, b. 6 Oct., 1796; m. — Chafy, and resided in Vermont.
27. DAVID, b. 16 Oct., 1797, in Washington.
28. NANCY, b. 24 May, 1803, in Washington; d. 4 April, 1804.
29. BENJAMIN F., b. 10 Feb., 1805, in Washington; resided in Kalamazoo, Mich.; d. in the Civil War.

9. JAMES LESSLIE was born in Rowley, 10 March, 1761, and married in Bradford, Mass., — Feb., 1780 (CH. RD. 1781), Hannah Blaisdell, and lived in Washington, N. H.

## Children of James and Hannah Lesslie :—

30. JOHN, b. 3 April, 1781, in Bradford.
31. JONATHAN, b. 11 Aug., 1784, in Washington.
32. WALKER C., b. 28 May, 1787, in Washington.
33. ROXANNA, b. 4 July, 1789, in Washington; m. a Miller; d. in Flatbush, N. Y.
34. CYRUS, b. 12 Nov., 1791, in Washington; m. Hannah —; lived in Lowell, Mich., and had Hannah, Irene, Martha, James, Mary, Sophronia, Cynthia, Walker, and Nancy Jane, b. 8 Feb., 1834, who m. at North Bend, Philip Kring, a lawyer, of Mayfield, county Fulton, N. Y.
35. IRENE, b. —.
36. JAMES, b. 1798, in Acworth; in War of 1812 when about 13 years old.; m., when about 40 years old, Eliza Chadwick,

and had (a) Mary, who d. y.; (b) Abigail, who m. a Harvie, lived in Northfield, N. Y., had one dau., who m. and d.; (c) Charles, who was in the war and d. in California; (d) Waker, in lumber trade in N. Y. State; (e) Eliza, b. 11 April, 1854, in Benson Centre, county Hamilton, N. Y., m. at Cranberry Creek, N. Y., John Henry Schulz, a farmer, and had a child that d. in Oakland three years before she wrote; (f) James, of Jacksonville, Florida; (g) Frank, living in Minneapolis, 1913; (h) William.

10. JONATHAN LESSLIE was born in Rowley, 5 June, 1763, and died there 5 Nov., 1771. Miss Sarah Shedd's poem, recited at some occasion in Washington, reads: All Mr. Lesslie's children sleep in hallowed ground within the town limits. Jonathan was buried in the "Linebrook Cemetery," land leased for 999 years in Rowley-Linebrook (see above), but Mr. J. Coggin Conant informs me that all the burials there were removed. This is not "The Old Cemetery," Ipswich-Linebrook.

11. WILLIAM LESSLIE was born in Rowley, Mass., 4 Aug., 1766. He married 27 Feb., 1791, Mary Chase, born 17 Aug., 1773, to Samuel, 3d, and Elizabeth (Leet) Chase of Cornish, N. H., and resided there for a time. Samuel, 3d, her father, was a first settler and a Revolutionary soldier. Mary died 28 June, 1797, aged 23 years. William's sister, Mehitable, then for a while kept house for him. He married again, and his second wife, Sarah, died 27 May, 1828. He was a blacksmith by trade, and was skillful with all kinds of mechanic's tools. He invented or improved many implements of home industry, and Aunt Esther (No. 96) compliments the Lesslie cheese-press as a success. The invention of cut nails is ascribed to him, and it is certain that William Lesslie of Ticonderoga, county Essex, N. Y., blacksmith, sold, 7 Feb., 1814, to his son Samuel C. Lesslie, of Claremont, N. H., husbandman, for \$500, a certain "nail shop" and machinery thereto belonging, in Beverly, county Essex, Mass. He acknowledged the sale the same day, Claremont, N. H., 7 Feb., 1814, and the deed was received for record at Salem, Mass., 21 Nov., 1814.

Aunt Esther writes: Grandfather never went west

further than New York. He lived on the banks of the Hudson river, not far from Albany; there Mary Ann was drowned, three years old. He was at our house when brother John was a few weeks old. His wife had died the May before. He got places for all his children before he came to Salem. His declining years were spent in and around Boston. Father visited and found all his half-brothers and sisters, except Catherine, whose family had moved some distance away,—after his return from Salem to Claremont, in 1829. One of the half-brothers, she wrote, was a painter in Syracuse.

Children of William and Mary Lesslie:—

- 37. SAMUEL CHASE, b. 17 Sept., 1791, at Cornish.
- 38. MARY,\* b. —
- 39. ELIZABETH B.,\* b. 16 Nov., 1793, or 16 March, 1794.
- 40. GEORGE, b. 14 April, 1796; d. 13 Sept., 1819.

Children of William and Sarah Lesslie:—

- 41. WILLIAM H., b. 10 May, 1814.
- 42. MARY ANN, b. 13 April, 1816; d. 22 May, 1819; drowned in the Hudson river.
- 43. JAMES P., b. 28 Nov., 1817.
- 44. GEORGE C., b. 5 May, 1820.
- 45. SARAH ANN, b. 30 March, 1822.
- 46. CATHARINE, b. 24 April, 1824.
- 47. MARGARET AMANDA, b. 19 March, 1826.

12. HEPHZIBAH LESSLIE was born in Rowley, 19 March, 1770. She married Isaac French of Washington, N. H., who was born 22 Dec., 1765, to Elijah and Mary (Clark) French of Braintree, Mass. They settled in Washington, where he died 7 July, 1816, and she 10 April, 1864, aged 94 years.

Children of Isaac and Hephzibah French:—

- 48. HEPHZIBAH, b. 25 Nov., 1789; d. 6 Sept., 1821.
- 49. POLLY, b. 28 Nov., 1791; d. Sept., 1832.
- 50. LUCINDA, b. 17 Jan., 1794; d. 9 Dec., 1876.
- 51. SUSAN, b. 1 Feb., 1795; d. 31 Jan., 1825.
- 52. ABIGAIL, b. 3 Jan., 1796; d. 30 Aug., 1833.
- 53. GARDNER L., b. 21 Feb., 1800; d. 26 April, 1822.

\*These two names are probably the same person. Mary Elizabeth (diminutive Betsey) was a common combination of those days.

- 54. SALLY, b. 1 Nov., 1802; d. 9 Dec., 1834.
- 55. HARVEY A., b. 12 Oct., 1804; d. at Vera Cruz, Mexico.
- 56. SYLVIA, b. 3 May, 1807.
- 57. LUTHER M., b. 11 Sept., 1809; d. 26 Dec., 1833.

These children all married.

13. JOSEPH LESSLIE was born in Rowley, 28 Feb., 1774. He married, 26 Nov., 1801, Rebecca Farrington. He was a teacher and farmer, and resided in Claremont, then in Cornish, where he died 10 April, 1852, and his wife 14 April, 1851, aged 66 years. He was, sometime after 1812, employed by Hon. William Jarvis as shepherd. Mr. Jarvis was eight years Consul General to Spain under Jefferson, during which time he sent a number of specimens of the Spanish merino breed of sheep to this country at places between Maine and Pennsylvania. At the close of his term he brought home with him a good-sized flock, and at Weathersfield, Vt., began raising and introducing the breed country-wide. Mr. Lesslie's ability commended him to the position of head shepherd.

Children of Joseph and Rebecca Lesslie, born in Claremont, the last three in Cornish :—

- 58. MEHITABLE ALMIRA, b. 10 April, 1803.
- 59. GEORGE WILLIAM HENRY, b. 29 April, 1804.
- 60. ELVIRA MATILDA, b. 13 March, 1806; m. Sylvanus Harlow; lived in Cornish; left issue.
- 61. ALONZO RANSON, b. 6 March, 1808.
- 62. PALMIRA MELINDA, b. 20 Feb., 1810.
- 63. PRUDENCE MARIA, b. 27 April, 1812; m. (1) Horace Goodhue; (2) S. B. Pattee, and lived in Enfield, N. H. She had no children—[*Lowell rec.* Horace Goodhue m. Patience Risby, b. in Lowell.]
- 64. HARRISON, b. 27 June, 1814.
- 65. ELIAKIM STEPHEN, b. 19 Feb., 1816; was a saddler in Haverhill, N. H., and Parishville, N. Y.; m. (1) Marion Blaisdell, and had two daughters, Helen, who m. a Pease and had two sons: Leslie (M. D., Dunkirk, N. Y.), and Lutie; and Julia, who m. a Gwin and had Marion and Allenette; m. (2) Frances —, and had Mattie and Bertha, who m. a Jones, and lived in Parishville, N. Y.
- 66. THOMAS HORACE GOODHUE, b. 5 Feb., 1818.
- 67. JOSEPH LUCIUS, b. 15 Sept., 1821.

68. CHARLES EDWIN, b. 22 June, 1823.

69. NORMAN LEROY, b. 8 Aug., 1825; was a dentist in Leominster, Mass.; m. Sarah Woodbury, and adopted a daughter Laura.

14. MEHITABLE LESSLIE was born in Rowley, Mass., 5 Sept., 1778, and married John Pressy of Claremont. They had children: Lucinda; Emeline, who married a Dean; and Malvina Amanda, born 26 Oct., 1811. This, says Aunt Esther, was the girl that father brought up—she was his cousin.

17. HANNAH LESSLIE was born 26 Sept., 1789. She married, 3 March, 1814, John Hartshorn of Henniker and lived there. She was living in 1880. Her husband died 27 July, 1863.

Children of John and Hannah Hartshorn:—

70. LEVI, b. 2 June, 1815; m. 7 Sept., 1841, Maria Needham of Middleborough, N. H.; lived in Washington; manufacturer of woolen goods, treasurer of Sullivan county, 1873-1875, deacon of Congregational church from 6 May, 1853, legislator, 1874; no children.

71. WORCESTER, b. 23 March, 1817; m. 14 Nov., 1842, Sarah Woodworth of South Boston; locomotive engineer, first ensign of grenadiers, Congregational deacon from 19 Feb., 1855, till his death, 13 Jan., 1880; his wife d., leaving children: Sarah Frances, George Edgar, Emma Jane, Mary Elizabeth.

72. LORIN (twin), d. 3 Sept., 1820.

72a. LUCINDA (twin); m. 19 Oct., 1848, S. Churchill of Nashua.

73. ELIZA, b. 7 May, 1822; unm., 1880.

74. CAROLINE C. (twin), b. 16 Feb., 1828; m. Alonzo Lull of Unity.

74a. HIRAM C. (twin), b. 16 Feb., 1828; d. 1 Jan., 1832.

75. MARIA, b. 1 Dec., 1830; m. 21 Oct., 1852, J. M. Perkins of Unity.

76. CASSANDRA, b. 25 June, 1833; unm., 1880.

18. DAVID LESSLIE was born in Henniker, 7 May, 1792, and married there, 10 May, 1818, Patty Greenfield of the same place. He enlisted, at Henniker, as private, in Capt. Benjamin Bradford's company, Col. McCobb's 45th U. S. infantry, from 6 Nov., 1812, to 15 Dec., 1813. He re-enlisted 30 June, 1812, and had \$200 bounty; enlisted a third time, 15 Dec., 1813, for one year. He was in the battle of Plattsburg, N. Y., and was discharged at

Sackett's Harbor, N. Y. A warrant was issued, 16 Nov., 1852, to David, for 160 acres of bounty land, on account of the above service, and he was allowed a pension, 17 April, 1871, when he was seventy-eight and a resident of Johnson township, county Lagrange, Ind. They were living in Warner, N. H., in 1880, having had, as per history of the town, several children, but I find only this one.

Child of David and Patty Lesslie:—

77. CHARLES W., b. about 1819.

19. GEORGE WASHINGTON LESSLIE was born in Heniker, N. H., 31 March, 1794. He married, first, 22 Feb., 1821, Gratia Ann Bartlett. His second marriage was in Cornish, N. H., 14 Sept., 1824, to Lucy Stearns, both of Cornish. She died 28 June, 1861, in Meridian, Mich. He married, third, in Warner, N. H., 12 Feb., 1863, Orra McAlpine, born in Hopkinton, N. H., 13 May, 1814, to Daniel, a farmer, and Abigail (Gould) McAlpine. She died 1 March, 1894, aged 79 years, 9 months, 19 days.

He enlisted in Capts. Bradford's and Flander's companies, 45th regiment, U. S. infantry, from 1 March, 1812, to 31 May, 1813, and from 1 June, 1813, to 30 April, 1814. George Lesslie enlisted 1 April, 1813, and 28 Feb., 1814, for one year. He was discharged at Sackett's Harbor. A warrant was issued to him 11 Feb., 1851, for 160 acres of bounty land for the service. He died 2 Nov., 1886, and his widow Orra was allowed a pension, on her application, dated 11 Nov., 1886, when she was seventy-two, and a resident of Warner.

Children of George and Gratia A., Lucy, and Orra Lesslie:—

78. GRATIA ANN, b. 9 May, 1825, in Cornish; d. 19 Aug., 1901. She m., 25 Sept., 1845, Emery Hardy, a farmer, who was b. in Hopkinton, N. H., to Ozias Hardy, 12 July, 1821, and d. in Meridian, Mich., 10 Aug., 1881. Children:—(a) Lucy Maria, b. 27 July, 1846, in Warner, N. H., and d. 6 Feb., 1906; (b) George Edson, b. 30 June, 1848, in Warner; (c) Charles Freeman, b. 16 Sept., 1850, in Warner; (d) Clara Ann, b. 24 Oct., 1858, in Meridian, Mich.; (e) George Edson, lived in Haslett, county Ingraham, Mich., and (says David Leslie) d. in Leslie, same county, a few years ago, for whom the town was named.

79. MAHALA, b. 6 March, 1828, in Cornish; d. 16 March, 1908, in Warner. She was Lucy (Stearns') daughter. She m., in Hopkinton, Lemuel Hardy, who was b. 24 Aug., 1817, in Warner, and d. there 13 Feb., 1900. He was a farmer, and son of Silas and Katie (Kimball). Children:—(a) Ira Joseph, b. 18 May, 1852, who m. 13 May, 1881, Celia F. Getchell, who d. 29 Aug., 1908, in Contoocook, N. H. They had three children: (1) Emma Addie, b. 5 March, 1883; d. 22 Nov., 1902; m. 31 Nov., 1899, Fred J. Chase; had Emily Althea, b. 14 April, 1901; (2) Elsie Belle, b. 9 Dec., 1890, d. 7 May, 1891; (3) Elsie Belle, b. 24 Aug., 1893; m. 22 May, 1912, Wm. F. Hale. (b) Addie, b. 24 Sept., 1858; d. 24 Nov., 1861. (c) William, b. 13 May, 1863; d. 24 Aug., 1892.
80. WILLIAM HENRY, b. 7 May, 1832, in Cornish.
81. NELSON DANIEL, b. 15 July, 1835, in Cornish; enlisted in Meridian, Mich., 14 Sept., 1861, as private in Co. B, 2nd U. S. sharp-shooters, and served till 3 Jan., 1862, when he d. in the regimental hospital at Washington, D. C. He never married.
82. LORENZO BUELL, b. about 1840.
83. JOSEPH, b. in Cornish; d. in Warner, aged 10 or 12 years.

27. DAVID LESSLIE was born in Washington, N. H., 16 Oct., 1797. From that date to his 23d year, when he was licensed to preach, we find no recorded knowledge of his life—what school he attended, or Bible Institute; by whom he was licensed, and where he preached the first two years; when and where he married; where his children were born, save one. Searching therein is like St. Paul's asymptote (2 Tim., 3: 7), "ever learning, and never able to come to a knowledge of the truth."

We know, however, that the baby David was contemporaneous three years with his grandfather, and probably in the same house. It is not all imagination that the aged man often prayed a divine afflatus to crown his grandson's pliant life. Later, no doubt, the boy had access to the college books of his grandfather, and still later he may have attended school; several of the older academies report that his name is not on their lists of students. Wilbraham Academy, Gaylord W. Douglass, head-master, reports as the others, and adds: "Wilbraham Academy was first started at Newmarket, N. H., in 1817, and continued there till 1824, when it was moved



to Wilbraham, Mass., where Jason Lee was a student in 1830. Mr. Leslie may have studied at Newmarket, but we have no record of the 400 students enrolled there between 1817 and 1823."

The Newmarket institution was located about sixty miles across the State, was known among the people as "The New England Conference School," and appears to have been very popular. This school may have been the strong influence that carried young David from the Presbyterianism of his grandfather to the Methodism of Wesley and Whitefield.

Entering now the province of records and facts, we find in Rev. Nathan F. Carter's "New Hampshire Native Ministry," that Mr. Lesslie preached in Canada, Vermont, and Massachusetts, before joining the Mission of Oregon, and that the following itineraries in the States were his:—

Mr. Lesslie was licensed to preach in 1820, but where he labored the first two years following we have no knowledge. In 1822, June 29, he was admitted, on trial, a member of the New England Conference at Bath, Me., and was appointed to the itinerancy of Barre, Vt. The next year, 1823, he was appointed to Athens, Vt. In 1824, June 22 or 27, he was ordained deacon, by Bishop Hedding, at Barnard, Vt., and was appointed to the itinerancy of Craftsbury and Derby, with the assignment of Justin Spaulding as an assistant. In 1825,\* he was returned to Barre. In 1826, June 11, he was ordained Elder, by Bishop George, at Wilbraham, Mass., and received the appointment to Brookfield, Vt., with George Southerland as an assistant. In 1827 and 8 he was itinerant at Moretown, Vt. In 1829 and 30 he was super-numerary, and so finished his preaching service in that State. Of these years, 1829-30, and those above, 1820, 1821, his labors are not recorded; but if he labored in Canada (and there is very slight doubt of it), it must have been during one of these periods or both.

\*E. E. Leslie, Esq., of St. Johnsbury, Vt., wrote that Mr. Lesslie was made a Mason by Rural Lodge, No. 66, of Plainfield, Vt., "initiated" 24 Nov., 1825; "passed" 29 Dec., 1825; "raised" 26 Jan., 1826.

*(To be continued.)*



## JAMES LESSLIE OF TOPSFIELD, MASS. AND SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS.

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BY M. V. B. PERLEY.

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(*Continued from Volume LI, page 256.*)

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In the earliest period he might have joined in lasting friendship with Jason Lee, a native preacher of Stanstead township or Stanstead Plain, and missionary to the Indians there. When Mr. Lesslie went to Derby in 1824, the old friendship would certainly be renewed. So when Mr. Lee had determined upon a two-years' course of study at Wilbraham, in 1829-30, Mr. Lesslie took up the itinerancy of Mr. Lee for the while. This friendship, maybe, joined the men in labors for the Master, in Oregon.

In 1831, Mr. Lesslie entered the regular itinerancy in Massachusetts, and was appointed to Granville. In 1832, he was appointed to Westfield; in 1833, to Northampton; in 1834, to Worthington; and in 1835-6, to Fair-Haven Village. Thus his labors closed in the East. His large circuits, forty to fifty miles in extent, required more time on the road than could be given to sermonizing. His study appears to have been in the saddle. The long horseback rides in northern Vermont were replaced, year by year, by circuits more centralized and labor more local. For sixteen years he met all the requirements of his tedious labors,—in matters of planning and skill in executing; in preparing his messages and his persuasive cogency in presenting them; in his physical ability to endure fatigue and the storms and cold of the long winter. So when in Springfield, Mass., 13 July, 1836, he offered himself to the Conference sitting there, a missionary to Oregon, the offer was at once accepted. He was made an assistant to Rev. Jason Lee, who went from Stanstead Plain and established the mission in 1834, and had charge of all the

affairs of M. E. interest. The voyage around Cape Horn was long, tedious, perilous. The autumn was given to preparation. Mrs. Lesslie visited her aged mother and her sisters, Mrs. Pierce, wife of Rev. Thomas C. Pierce,\* and Miss Esther Kinne, who were living in Lynn, Mass. Mr. Lesslie wrote that "on 22† Jan., 1837, they embarked from Boston," on board the ship *Sumatra*, himself, his wife, their three daughters, and the companion passengers to the same terminus, Mrs. Margaret Smith and Rev. H. K. W. Perkins.

There is nothing unusual related of the voyage. However, Mr. Lesslie wrote of his wife: "The deprivations and trials of a long sea-voyage were by her endured in such a manner as reflected credit upon her Christian character." Via the Sandwich Islands, they arrived at Fort Vancouver, 7 Sept. and at their destination with the Willamette tribe of Indians, at Chemekete, now Salem, 20 Sept., 1837. This Willamette family then numbered sixty souls, including native children, indians and white persons about equal. Mr. Lesslie was to be the local preacher of this family, thus affording Mr. Lee ampler time to superintend the work in other families and the growing and onerous duties in the territorial and various M. E. interests. Mrs. Lesslie, says her husband, "immediately entered upon the work of faith and labor of love; she collected around her a number of children, to whom she imparted the first principles of literary and religious knowledge and those principles which lay the foundation of female character and usefulness. Thus she continued, till the autumn of 1839, when brought suddenly to the very door of death."

When these two campaigners came together in council, business revived, the future was mapped and action planned. There were the fur-companies, the trappers, the settlers, the Canadians, the Americans, the Catholics, the Protestants, and above all, the interests of the several missions—each anxious and working for his own. Politics was an exotic plant of rapid growth; political jeal-

\*Mr. Pierce was preaching in Lynn, Mass., that fall and had his home there many years. His mother Kinne died there in 1854.

†Others give other dates, as 7, 20, 27 Jan.

ousies became more and more expressive, the shadows of coming events deepened. The remedy for the malady contained two ingredients—piety and patriotism, Deity and the United States government. Mr. Lee resolved to visit the government at Washington and present his case for aid, leaving the method to be employed to the wisdom of Congress. He appointed Mr. Lesslie to the superintendency of the missions.

On 20 March, 1838, Mr. Lee sailed for the United States. The Great Northwest was then considered a foreign country and the Mission a foreign field. Thomas H. Benton, thirty years in the U. S. Senate, said the proper boundary of the States on the west was “the peaks and ridges of the Rockies.”

Thus when Mr. Lesslie had been hardly six months in this field he became superintendent of all the M. E. interests in the great Northwest and preacher to the Willamette settlement, the centre of Mr. Lee’s “Methodist Society.”

Mr. Lee’s choice, reads historian Hines, “was in every way a suitable one. Mr. Lesslie was a man of good ability, of considerable culture, of clear judgment, of great stability of character, and had had considerable experience, as pastor in charge of important fields in New England, before his appointment as missionary to Oregon. The carefulness of his supervision of every interest committed to him thoroughly vindicates the sagacity of Mr. Lee in his selection for that important post.”

The fall of 1839, Mr. Lesslie drafted a memorial for Congress, wherein he set forth the salubrity of the climate, the wealth stored in soil, forests and streams, the political situation, and the bounden duty of national action to conserve so great an acquisition. The memorial was considered in convention, and with a few slight changes was unanimously adopted. It was signed by Mr. Lesslie and more than seventy other leading citizens, and sent on its nation-wide mission.

Right following his appointment, he began to acquaint himself with the extent of his vineyard, the progress made, the method employed, the spirit, purposes and needs of the vineyard dressers, and to acquaint them

with his purposes for the near future. In August of that year (1838) "the lonely missionaries at the Dalles were cheered by his visit to them," a distance of over 100 miles from his Willamette home.

In December of that year began and continued through the winter of 1838-9, wrote the historian, "one of the most remarkable seasons of revival ever recorded in that territory, Mr. Leslie, the leading spirit, preaching with earnestness and power." A large number of natives and settlers was added to the church. *Zion's Herald* (1839, p. 155) records, that "Mr. Lesslie's two oldest daughters were converted and joined the class."

In the winter of 1840-41, Ewing Young died and left a large property, with no government to probate it. This imperative need of public authority in law moved the settlers to action *in re*. A mass-meeting was called for 17 and 18 Feb., 1841, to establish a Primary Civil Government. The influence of the revival was marked. Rev. Jason Lee, who had then returned from his two-year sojourn in the East, was chosen chairman of the convention, and Rev. Gustavus Hines, later the historian, secretary. Committees on constitution and laws and on nominations of state officers were selected. The next day the convention mustered the entire community; every interest was represented, and it looked like a hard day's work for all. Mr. Lee was excused as chairman, and Rev. David Lesslie was chosen to that office. Rev. Sidney Smith was chosen secretary to act with Mr. Hines. The power behind the gavel was alert, efficient, judicious, deliberative, and the gavel prevailed. The committee on law was to report later. Mr. Lesslie was chairman by adjournment in June and October.

Several political "jealousies" deferred the election of governor. Ira L. Babcock was chosen supreme judge with probate powers. He was instructed to act in accordance with the laws of New York State. He settled the Young estate, and also the estate of Mr. Lesslie's son-in-law, Cornelius Rogers, and others, in course. Other officers were chosen—clerk of courts and public recorder, high sheriff and constables. The officers elect qualified the same day. Chairman Lesslie administered the oath

of office to each, and a Primary Government of the People of Oregon was established.

That was a proud day for Mr. Lesslie when he stood in that assembly and his common-sense statecraft improvised and administered the oath of office and established the first civil authority in the great foreign Northwest. That important state document is now a ready reference for fact and authority, signed in legal form : David Lesslie, chairman ; Gustavus Hines, Sidney Smith, secretaries.

Mr. Lesslie, Jason Lee and Harvey Clark draughted and administered the oath of office to the government elected, 2 May, the next year. He was, too, a leading influence in forming the constitution of Oregon as a state.

All parties used their circumstances and ability to hold the territory and establish a state. It appears to an impartial reader of the history that no one man "Saved Oregon." Mr. Lesslie stood in the very threshold of the undertaking. His was an initial activity, and these facts constrain us to write Mr. Lesslie among the very chiefest apostles of Oregon's salvation.

After his wife's death in 1841, Mr. Lesslie had no special mission, and it was necessary for him to make some suitable provision for his five motherless daughters, whose ages ran from fifteen years to infancy. He concluded to place his daughters in the Methodist Mission home school in Honolulu, S. I. Satira, the oldest, of fine physique and wisely considerate, advised with Mr. Rogers, and they agreed to accompany Father Lesslie to Baker's Bay, Columbia River, where he was to take passage for Honolulu, go on board the ship with him, be married there, and take back the two younger girls, while he journeyed with the two older ones to school. The plan matured, and Rev. J. P. Richmond, M. D., married them.

Mr. Lesslie had the sorrows and losses common to humanity. In December, 1839, his house and all his personal effects were burned. *Zion's Herald*, page 155, says : "His children had not a change of clothing left. The loss was more severe because of his wife's serious illness."

More than three years later, his daughters, Aurelia and Satira, the latter's husband, and three other passengers, in

a large canoe, with a crew of five indians, were journeying to the Dalles on the Columbia River. At the head of the rapids above the Willamette Falls, on 2 Feb., 1843, four of the men stepped ashore, to let the canoe down several rods further by means of a rope. By the sheerest accident the men fell into the river, letting go the rope, when instantly the canoe shot down the cataract with all on board. All were drowned. At this time Aurelia was two years old, Helen four, and the marriage of Satira was only the September before.

There is no need to write further of Mr. Lesslie's executive ability, his sagacity, and devotion in religious matters. "He was seventeen years an itinerant among our own people and the Indians of the territory." He performed one term of ministerial service in Oregon City, and was fifteen years a superannuate, though making the best possible use of his failing health and strength to serve his generation.

Mr. Hines wrote, 1868: "Perhaps the incipient measures which led to the establishment of a institution of learning are to be attributed more to him than to any other individual now living. The first school for higher education on the Pacific coast was the *Oregon Institute* at Salem. The initial steps for the establishment of it were taken 17 Jan., 1842, at a meeting called for the purpose by Rev. Jason Lee, at which he presided. Mr. Lesslie was placed on the very first committee; he was second on a committee of nine who were to act as trustees and start the enterprise. In the canvass for money, Messrs. Lesslie, Lee and J. B. Judson subscribed \$500 each; others subscribed \$300, \$200, \$100, etc.; all heartily aided according to their means."

The "Methodist Society," organized 25 Dec., 1837, by Rev. Jason Lee, and fostered and represented by Mr. Lesslie's Willamette church, took charge of the school, 26 Oct., 1842. About September, 1849, it passed under the control of the *Oregon and Mission Conference*, which had grown out of Mr. Lee's "Methodist Society." The school began its first term in the winter of 1844-5. At the first it taught branches, primary, academic, collegiate; 12 Jan., 1853, it was incorporated as *Willamette University*, with

colleges of Arts, Law, Medicine, Music. The charter named the first Board of Trustees and Mr. Lesslie as its President. He received an annual election to that office till his death, except one year, when his family sojourned at the Sandwich Islands in quest of health. History says : "He has ever been rightly esteemed as the father, the patriarch of the institution. He has been president of the Board of Trustees of the University to the present time [1868], and has proved himself worthy of the honor."

Some have written me of Dr. Lesslie ; others of Father Lesslie. I feel no risk in writing both titles correct. That the college has not recorded the degree is not proof that it was not conferred. Many, very many, important matters of the old colleges—not to speak of later ones—are not recorded. Ten years of *Dartmouth's* early records are meagre indeed ; an alumnus of *Harvard* was called there as tutor, but there is no record of it ; Rev. J. W. Healy, D. D., M. D., "had the degree conferred I know," wrote Dr. Streiby of *Straight*, but there is no record of it. President Fletcher Homan of *Willamette* wrote, in 1914, "Degrees granted years ago by colleges often were not recorded, and it is altogether probable that Father Lesslie had such a degree, as he was a prominent man in Oregon." He then added on his own account : "I have no objection to your appending the D. D. to his name as he was worthy of the distinction, and none will object." So we write it : Rev. David Lesslie, D. D.

The other title, used above by President Homan, and by several others of my correspondents, is more gratifying, more significant of the man, more enduring, and a prouder fame—Father Lesslie ! It was born of popular sentiment and appreciation while he was living, and prevails to-day, half a century thereafter. This apostrophy to Father Lesslie is not unjust to others : Doctor Lesslie ! first in revivals, first in statecraft, first in education, and, as Father Lesslie, first in the hearts of his people !

Father Lesslie married, in the spring of 1826, Miss Mary Amelia Kinne (pronounced in two syllables), the fourth daughter of Hon. Bradford Kinne of Plainfield, Vt. Mr. Kinne was prominent in church and town affairs and judge of the superior court, born 2 Dec., 1764,



in Preston, Ct., and died, it is said, in Plainfield, Vt., in 1828. Mrs. Lesslie's mother was Sally (Parkhurst) Kinne, born in Plainfield, Ct., Sept., 1770 ; married, June, 1791, and died in Lynn, Mass., 24 Jan., 1854, aged 83 1-3 years. Mrs. Lesslie's sisters were: Sally, born 28 June, 1796 ; Esther, born 1809 or 10 ; and perhaps Jemima, born 12 May, 1804, married Rev. Thomas C. Pierce, born in Quincy, Mass., 5 Dec., 1790, to Richard and Sarah Pierce. Mrs. Lesslie was born 10 Feb., 1802, and was known in her girlhood as Polly. She died in the Willamette station, Oregon Territory, 15 Feb., 1841, and her husband says "was buried beneath the oak and the evergreen on the 17th." In an extended notice of her death : "Her physical constitution was delicate, and she enjoyed but indifferent health at best. She was converted at twenty years and lived a conscientious Christian. She had an apt faculty to teach and govern. She was truly a helpmeet to her husband in his most arduous and perplexing work. \* \* \* She was a most faithful and affectionate wife, a fond and discreet mother, a devoted Christian, and a self-sacrificing missionary of the cross."

Mr. Lesslie married, second, in 1844, Mrs. Adelia (Judson) Olley, born about 1812, in Vermont, who went a missionary from Hartford, Ct. She was the widow of Rev. James Olley, a local preacher, a carpenter by trade, who joined the mission in 1839, and earned his title by his ability and ministerial labors. He was drowned in the Willamette River, a few miles above Chemekete (Salem), 11 Dec., 1843. "She was a most estimable and devoted lady, and to a beautiful old age illustrated the Christian character and life in the society of the capital of Oregon." She died in April or May, 1890, aged 78 years.

Father Lesslie died 1 March, 1869, and was buried in the Odd Fellows' cemetery at Salem, Oregon, with his first wife and his two children, Sarah A. and Emma H.

Children of David and Mary A. Lesslie :

84. SATIRA, b. about 1827; d. in the Falls accident, 2 Feb., 1843; m. on shipboard, 1 Sept., 1842, Cornelius Rogers, a school-teacher and independent missionary. He died in the Falls accident. The probate valuation of his estate was (\$1500 less \$700) \$800, which went to his father's family, in Utica,



N. Y. [Jacob Rogers, a native of Stonington, Ct., a tanner and currier by trade, who sojourned in Springfield, Mass., and settled in Utica, may have been an ancestor of Cornelius.]

85. SARAH, b. about 1829. She attended the mission school at Honolulu with her sister; entered upon a rapid decline, d. in Oct., 1843, at the age of 14, and was buried in the mission cemetery.
86. MARY AMELIA, b. 20 (Genella writes 24) Jan., 1832; d. 29 April, 1857; finished her education at *Willamette* and taught there several terms; m. George Hosmer Jones, b. New York, 31 Aug., 1822, and d. in Salem, Ore., 9 Aug., 1904. He was a capitalist and engaged in real estate. Mary Genella, their only child, b. 14 April, 1857, in Salem; now living in Los Angeles, Cali.; m., in Salem, 26 July, 1882, Gideon Jasper Parker, b. 22 Oct., 1842, in Iowa, and engaged in real estate. Beulah Helen, their only child, b. 27 Jan., 1888, in Lewiston, Idaho; m. 9 Sept., 1909, in Westminster, B. C., William J. Cloninger, b. in Oregon, 27 Jan., 1878; engaged in mercantile pursuits. Their children are: Corinne Vesta, b. Salt Lake City, 12 Sept., 1910, and Anita Helen, b. in Oregon, 29 Jan., 1912.
87. MELVILLE C., b. probably in 1834; d. in the summer or fall of 1836. Mrs. Lesslie wrote her sister, 2 April, 1838, "Two years ago my dear little son was living."
88. ELLEN. A correspondent speaks of a b. and a d. in Honolulu; see account of voyage, above. Ellen may be meant for Helen.
89. HELEN JEMIMA, b. June or December, 1839; d. in January, 1890 or 1891. She would have been with her sisters at the Falls, but her neighbors wanted her to stay and visit there awhile.
90. AURELIA, b. — Feb., 1841; d. at the Falls, 2 Feb., 1843.

#### Children of David and Adelia (J. O.) Lesslie :

91. SARAH A., b. 12 Aug., 1847; d. 17 Aug., 1853.
92. EMMA H., b. April or May, 1850; d. 7 Oct., 1854.

30. JOHN LESSLIE was born in Bradford, Mass., 3 April, 1781. He\* married in Beverly, Mass., 19 April, 1807, Sally French, daughter of the widow Sarah. John was a mariner. Administration of his estate was granted his widow Sally, 18 Jan., 1814.

\*John, No. 30, and "Beverly John" are possibly not identical. William and Samuel C. in Beverly thus may have been uncle and cousin.

## Children of John and Sally Lesslie:

93. Sarah (born about 1812,) was baptized in Beverly, 22 May, 1831. She was a school-teacher, and married 25 Nov., 1847, aged thirty-five, Jeremiah Porter, 2nd, widower, aged thirty-three, a cordwainer, son of Joseph and Anna.

37. SAMUEL CHASE LESSLIE was born in Cornish, N. H., 17 Sept., 1791, and died in Patten, Me., 20 April, 1845. He married 25 Dec., 1816, Mary Eliza Thomas of Claremont, N. H., who was born 26 Nov., 1792, and died in Patten, 29 Dec., 1846. He was a husbandman when, in 1814, he bought his father's nail shop, but it did not prove a permanent calling. He was a millwright by trade and established grist-mills in many places. On promise of a long job, he removed his family so as to be at home. He built mills in Salem, Danvers, Medford, Roxbury, and Marblehead, and "I think," wrote his daughter Esther, "in Boston." She wrote: "He built the lead factory in Salem, the first sheet lead roller mill ever built in the United States, and was there when grandfather visited us in 1828, but removing the very last of 1829, was again in Claremont in January, 1830. In 1831, he went to Lincoln, Me., and built a mill. The run of stones was made in the state prison yard at Charlestown, Mass. Then he built in Bangor, Dixmont, Exeter, and Dexter. In the spring of 1835, the agent of Patten township went to Lincoln for the millwright, who went and built Patten's mills, while the boys, William and James, cleared the beginning of a farm, which he and his family occupied in April, 1836." He was many years a taverner there, built his hostelry now standing (1913), and spelled his name with two esses—Lesslie.

## Children of Samuel C. and Mary E. Lesslie:

94. WILLIAM, b. 29 Jan., 1818.  
 95. DAVID T., b. 19 July, 1819; went to West Point Military Academy, enlisted in the Mexican War, and d. at Matamoras, 20 Jan., 1847.  
 96. ESTHER IVES, b. 28 Oct., 1821.  
 97. JAMES B., b. 23 June, 1823; d. in Bangor, 27 Feb., 1900.  
 98. SAMUEL CHASE, b. 2 Oct., 1826.  
 99. JOHN P., b. 13 Sept., 1828.

- 100. SYLVESTER ZINA, b. 11 July, 1831.
- 101. MARY ELIZABETH, b. 5 June, 1835; d. 28 April, 1857; m., June, 1854, Levi Blake of Patten, and had (a) Ella, who m. Edwin Palmer, and (b) Amy, who m. a Colson.

39. ELIZABETH B. LESSLIE was born 16 March, 1794, and married 15 Dec., 1811, Aaron West of Claremont, who died 10 Nov., 1841.

Children of Aaron and Elizabeth B. West :

- 102. JOHN, who m. Rebecca Ellis.
- 103. MARY L., who m. Amos Noyes, and had Edwin, who m. Eva Gill of Chicago, and Abbie J., who m. Sylvester S. Jackman and had three children.
- 104. JANE A., who m. William Brooks of Claremont and had only an adopted daughter.
- 105. WILLIAM, who m. Hannah Carter of Hanover, N. H., and had one daughter, Elizabeth J.
- 106. MORRIS, d. young.
- 107. GEORGE M., who m. Eliza A. Boyd of Golden City, Colo., and had Maggie and Leslie.
- 108. CHARLES, b. 8 Nov., 1829. He m. Lucretia Wright of East Boston. They had only one child—William. He m. Jennie Hall of Lowell, and they lived with his parents. Mr. Leslie m. a second time, and had one child. One of these children d. some years ago, and the other lately, at the age of 47 years. Mr. Leslie was a shipwright, then merchant in lumber, then several years on the police force. He is now retired.
- 109. ELIZABETH MARIA, who. m. Seth Paul of Claremont, 25 Oct., 1855, and had (a) Georgietta Estelle, b. in Lawrence, Mass., 13 Aug., 1858, m. Dr. Irving S. Cook, settled in Georgiaville, R. I., and had a girl and two boys; and (b) Arthur Henry, b. Waltham, Mass., 9 Dec., 1859.

48. HEPHZIBAH FRENCH was born in Washington, N. H., 25 Nov., 1789. Her familiar name was "Hepsy." She married 15 Feb., 1814, in Washington, Luther Mellen of that place, who was born 21 Sept., 1778, in Warwick, Mass., to Samuel Mellen. She died 6 Sept., 1821; he married, second, Mary Ann McKean, born in Nashua, N. H., 27 Jan., 1816, to Samuel and Betsey (Bowers) McKean. He died 24 Oct., 1865; she, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Crane, 9 April, 1902.

## Children of Luther and Hepsey Mellen :

110. LUTHER ADAMS, b. 3 Nov., 1816; d. 14 Sept., 1902.  
 111. SARAH LETITIA, b. 15 Sept., 1819.

## Children of Luther and Mary A. Mellen :

112. GEORGE LESLIE (named for Rev. George), b. 22 April, 1840; living (1914) in Washington.  
 113. MARY FRANCES, b. 10 Feb., 1844; m. 10 Feb., 1870, Orlando Thatcher Crane, who was b. in Bradford, N. H., 26 July, 1831, to Joshua, a farmer, and Sally Crane, formerly of Braintree, Mass. He was a blacksmith in Washington, where he d. 2 Feb., 1907. She is living on the old homestead with her son, her only child, Edwin Mellen, b. 20 Jan., 1871.  
 114. LUTHER EDWIN, b. 18 Oct., 1848. He graduated, in 1875, at Pennsylvania College, with the degree of D.D. S., and is in practice in Manatee, Florida; m. 18 Oct., 1876, Ellen Maria Ellis, b. in Milford, Mass., 23 Nov., 1848, to Washington and Amanda (Howard) Ellis. Their children: (a) Grace Ellen, b. 29 Sept., 1877, in Keene, N. H.; d. 4 Jan, 1879; (b) Maude Ellis, b. 27 Nov., 1879, in Middlebury, Vt.; (c) Philip Edwin, b. 6 Oct., 1883, in Middlebury, educated in Middlebury College and Pennsylvania College, where he took, 1907, the degree of D. D. S.; in practice in Middlebury; m., in Albany, N. Y., 24 Dec., 1908, Mary Wheaton Hager, b. South Deerfield, Mass., 19 Jan., 1879, to Dexter Fairbanks and Abigail Wheaton (Perry) Hager; one child: Richard Hager, b. Middlebury, 23 Oct., 1909, of whom all are living; and (d) Henry Luther, b. 4 Jan., 1889.

58. MEHITABLE ALMIRA LESSLIE, of Cornish, N. H., was born in Claremont, N. H., 10 April, 1803, and married (int. 30 Oct.), 1824, Ira Mitchell of Framingham, Mass., who was born 20 Oct., 1799. She died 21 Dec., 1831. His second wife was Fannie Clement, born 8 March, 1808; married (int. 26 May), 1833.

## Children of Ira and Mehitabel A. Mitchell :

115. GEORGE L., b. 14 Feb., 1826.  
 116. EDWIN C., b. 17 Dec., 1827.  
 117. LUCIUS FRANKLIN, b. 29 Jan., 1830.

## Children of Ira and Fannie Mitchell :

- 117a. CLEMENT BARTLETT, b. 13 Aug., 1835.  
 117b. CHARLES THOMAS, b. 26 July, 1837; d. 26 July, 1838.

117c. FRANCES ELLEN, b. 11 Jan., 1840.

117d. HERBERT WALLACE, b. 16 Oct., 1847.

59. GEORGE WILLIAM HENRY LESSLIE was born in Claremont, N. H., 29 April, 1804. He was a shoemaker by trade—a considerable business in his day. He married, 18 Dec., 1828, Mehitable Williams, born in Plainfield, N. H., 13 April, 1807, to Atwood, a farmer, and Mary (Peake) Williams, who were married 13 July, 1786. He settled in Newbury, Vt., where he died 21 Sept., 1885, and his widow 13 March, 1890, aged eighty-two years, eleven months. The Passumpsic railroad crosses the site of his first home near the present station. Squire Leslie was essentially a public man. He was a justice of the peace, was often a juror, and many terms on the school board. He was actively identified in the organization of the Newbury Seminary, and gave liberally to it in its infancy. Probably no other citizen of the town has been so widely and pleasantly remembered by the old seminary students. They frequented his office, read the *New York Tribune* (always on file) and discussed current topics. He was "active, honorable, influential, highly respected."

Children of George W. H. and Mehitable Lesslie :

118. GEORGE, d. in infancy.

119. ADALINE, d. in infancy.

120. LUCY, d. in infancy.

121. JANE, b. 13 May, 1831.

122. MARY PEAKE, b. 26 March, 1833.

123. EMMALINE, b. 7 May, 1835.

124. HELEN MARIA, b. 14 July, 1843.

125. GEORGE WILLIAM, b. 14 Oct., 1847.

61. ALONZO RANSOM LESSLIE was born 6 March, 1808. He was a farmer in Haverhill, N. H., and Newbury, Topsham, and again Newbury, Vt. He married Martha G. Clark of Newbury, born 27 Sept., 1812, to Jonathan and Mary (Flanders) Clark. He died 5 Feb., 1857; she 3 Jan., 1865, in Topsham.

Children of Alonzo R. and Mary G. Lesslie :

126. HORACE GRANVILLE, b. in Haverhill, N. H., 13 April, 1842.

127. MARY MARIA, b. in Topsham, 12 Nov., 1849.

62. PALMIRA MELINDA LESSLIE was born 20 Feb.,

1810, in Claremont, N. H., and died in Concord in Sept., 1896. She married, first, at Grafton, N. H., Thomas J. Caswell of Concord; second, at Concord, Leavitt C. Virgin; and third, J. C. Harrington. She was a doctress of wide practice and reputation for skill. Thomas Jefferson Caswell was born in Taunton, Mass., and died in Concord, N. H., in 1853.

Children of Thomas J. and Palmira M. Caswell:

128. LEROY, b. in Grafton, where he died.
129. WEALTHY, b. in Richmond; d. in Concord, aged 7 years.
130. JOHN HARRIMAN, b. in Grafton, 17 Oct., 1839. His wife, Cetina Inez Fellows, b. in Danbury, N. H., 29 July, 1843, to Stephen and Sabia (Kilton) Fellows, m. in Grafton, 25 Oct., 1863. He was in the 3d N. H. Vols. and 1st Heavy Artillery at Hilton's Head and Washington forts respectively. He worked over fifty years for the Abbot-Downing Co., Concord, at carriage painting and lettering. Had: (1) Frank J., b. 24 Sept., 1864; (2) Howard F., b. 1 April, 1866; (3) Emma J., b. 12 July, 1880.
131. ELZADIA, b. in Concord.

64. HARRISON LESSLIE was born in Claremont, N. H., 27 June, 1814, and died in Cornish, N. H., 26 Oct., 1887. His wife Betsey was born in Rochester, Mass., 1819, and died in Cornish, 14 Jan., 1879, aged sixty years. He was a teacher and farmer.

Children of Harrison and Betsey Lesslie:

132. CHARLES R., b. in Cornish, where he d. 30 Aug., 1873, aged 27 years; m., aged 20 y., 14 Feb., 1866, Frank L. Bartlett, aged 21 y., at Cornish. He enlisted in the 2nd Co. N. H. Hy. Arty.; mustered in 18 March, 1864; out 11 Sept., 1865.
133. WASHINGTON IRVING, b. in Cornish in 1843, a farmer; m., in Chester, N. H., 6 April, 1870, Mrs. Sarah Isabell Bailey, b. in 1839 at Chester or Springfield, Vt., to David and Lydia (Pain) McAllester. Had: b. in Cornish, (1) Minnie, b. 3 Feb., 1871, who d. as Annie, 5 Feb., 1871, æ. 2 days; (2) Herbert I., b. 6 Sept., 1872, who m. in Cornish, 5 Nov., 1892, Ellen M. Nelson, æ. 15, domestic, b. in Bridgewater, Vt., to Curtis S., æ. 42, and Mary A. (Metcalf) Nelson, æ. 35; (3) Lillian I., b. 18 Aug., 1875, who d. 19 Aug., 1876.

66. THOMAS HORACE GOODHUE LESSLIE was born 19 Feb., 1818. He was a blacksmith by trade, a machinist,

and a "49er." In that year he went to California, where he contracted typhoid fever and died. He married in Lowell, 5 Aug., 1845, Elzadia Moody Smith, operative, born 3 Feb., 1821, in New Hampton, to Obediah Colby and Betsey (Sanders) Smith. Mrs. Lesslie married, second, in Lowell, 4 Jan., 1857, Alden Gifford, aged 49, a machinist, born in Wentworth, N. H., to Isaac and Polly Gifford; she married, third, 9 Nov., 1859, Calvin T. Chamberlain, aged 36, an undertaker, born in Chelmsford, Mass. Mrs. Chamberlain is now living in Lowell in the ripe old age of ninety-four years.

Child of Thomas H. G. and Elzadia M. Lesslie :

134. EMMA ROXANNA, b. in Lowell, 29 Nov., 1845; d. aged 10 y.

67. JOSEPH LUCIUS LESSLIE was born in Cornish, N. H., 15 Sept., 1821. He was one of the three Cornish brothers—Lucius, Edwin and Leroy—who, it is said, were at one time tailors in Lowell, Mass. A vision of clothing ready made warned them, and Lucius became a minister, Edwin a photographer, and Leroy a dentist. Where Lucius studied for the ministry is not known to us. He held a pastorate of the Universalist church in Hartland, Vt., and Ernest A. English of that town pointed out, in 1913, the house in which he lived a pastor. He was pastor at Troy, N. H., at the time of his death, 18 July, 1861. He married, in Hartland, 14 Oct., 1851, Mary Livermore, daughter of Joseph and Jerusha (Merritt) Livermore. His widow married, second, Reuben Allan Richardson, 1 Feb., 1873, in Gardiner, Me., and had one child, Allan Livermore, born in South Gardiner, 18 March, 1874.

Children of Joseph Lucius and Mary Lesslie :

135. LIZZIE MARIA, b. in Lowell, 30 Oct., 1854, and died there 27 July, 1856.

136. SELWYN GOODHUE, b. in Lowell, 20 June, 1859.

68. CHARLES EDWIN LESSLIE was born 22 June, 1823, at Cornish, N. H. He married, in Acton, Mass., 9 Nov., 1846, Olivia Abigail Poole, born in Barton, Vt., 21 April, 1827, to William W. and Olivia (Huggins) Poole, and died in Dracut, Mass., 30 Jan., 1890. It is said he was



a photographer, and later cultivated a fruit farm in Dra-  
cut. He died in St. Johnsbury, Vt.

Children of C. Edwin and O. Abigail Lesslie :

137. HORACE GOODHUE, b. in Aeton, 16 Dec., 1848; m. in Lowell, June, 1874, Patience Risby, b. in Lowell, and is now (1913) in California. His sister mentions no children.
138. ORIELLA CORA, b. in Lowell, 1 Jan., 1852; m. in Malden, while living in Lowell, 10 June, 1891, Stephen Henry Sawtell, b. in Chelsea, Aug., 1838, and d. in Lynn, 20 Dec., 1896. He had dining rooms in Lynn. They had no children.
139. A SON, b. in Lowell, 4 Oct., 1859.

77. CHARLES W. LESLIE was born in Henniker. He was an overseer in mills. He married, 23 Jan., 1843, Lucy Jane Brown of Henniker, born 19 Aug., 1820, to Jacob (Thomas?) and Mercy (Estes) Brown, and died in Pennacook, N. H., 2 Sept., 1859. [Mercy died 5 March, 1868. Jacob had a second wife, Harriet Fox of Hadley, Mass. He was one of 22 children, 11 boys and 11 girls.] We have no data of Charles' second wife, except that Mary H. B. wrote that she had three half sisters, one living (1915) in Washington, D. C.

Charles W. enlisted in Co. D, 11th N. H. Vols.; age, 43; residence, Hillsboro; mustered in 29 Aug., 1862; discharged, disabled, 5 May, 1863, at Hampton, Va.; died 9 July, 1884, Chelsea, Mass.

Children of Charles W. and Lucy J. Leslie :

140. GEORGE HARVEY, b. in Henniker, 1 June, 1844; d. there 20 Aug., 1845.
141. JULIA FRANCES, who m. No. 82.
142. HENRY, who died in Worcester, Mass., several years ago.
143. ELLEN JANE, b. 12 Feb., 1856; d. 6 July, 1908. She was adopted by a family named Hoyt in Hillsboro. She m. Francis Alphonso Mount. They had three boys and a girl, all b. in Great Falls, N. H. The daughter m. George Marston, and they live in Manchester, having a boy and a girl.
144. MARY H. B., b. 15 Aug., 1859. When about 3 weeks old her mother died, and when 14 months old she was adopted by George and Lydia Mary (Buzwell) French of Tilton, N. H. They changed her name to Mary H. B. French. Mr. French, a mill overseer, d. 7 Nov., 1893. She lives in Tilton.

80. WILLIAM HENRY LESLIE was born 7 May, 1832.



He was employed by the Concord railroad and the B. & M. system, in the same office forty years, retiring in 1910. He now in Hudson enjoys a ripe old age. He married Betsey A. McAlpine (a sister to Orra, family 19), who was born in Hopkinton, 2 June, 1821, and died 6 June, 1903, in Hudson, where her remains repose.

Child of William H. and Betsey A. Leslie :

145. CHARLES CLEMENT, b. 27 May, 1854. He m. 1st, 10 June, 1877, Lucy E. Smith, who was b. 3 Feb., 1857, and d. 21 Feb., 1878. He m. 2d, 16 Dec., 1880, Eliza B. Webster, who was b. 14 July, 1862. She is secretary of Echo Rebekah Lodge, I. O. O. F., and librarian of the Hudson Public Library. Mr. Leslie is another standard railroad man, in Nashua. He is a Mason and an Odd Fellow. His only child is Eugene William, b. 10 April, 1882, who is assistant cashier of the Nashua Trust Co., and is a Mason and an Odd Fellow. He m., 14 Sept., 1905, Lettie V. Shepard, b. 29 Aug., 1885, and they have two children: Eleanor Sybil, b. 8 Oct., 1906, and Gordon Charles, b. 27 May, 1911.

82. LORENZO BUELL LESLIE, born about 1840, died in Nashua, June, 1885. He was a steam engineer. When of Warner, 2 April, 1863, he married there his cousin, Julia Frances Leslie, of Henniker, born in Boston, No. 77. They had one child, and were divorced. She married, second, a Chase, and third, a Frazer. She had a child of each name. "The daughter" is Mrs. Sadie Hartson, R. F. D., No. 1, Drummond's Corner, Contoocook, N. H. She has two boys. Lorenzo married, second, Mrs. Mattie (Harvey) Emery of Pembroke, and had two children. He married, third, in Manchester, Caroline Devinger, born in Canada, died in Concord, 1899. Her parents were Peter and Jane (Cutler) Devinger.

Children of Lorenzo B. and Julia F., Mattie, Carrie Leslie :

146. WALTER, b. 24 July, 1867; d. 25 March, 1869.  
 147. CORA, daughter of Mattie, d. y.  
 148. MATTIE; m. 1st, Bert Drowne, lived in Warner and Barre, Vt.; m. 2d, Frank George.  
 149. ARTHUR ERNEST, son of Caroline, b. in Hooksett. He is a general painter. He m. in Boston, 11 April, 1909, Alma Pearl True, b. in St. Johnsbury, 30 May, 1883, to Adna

Dennison and Miranda (Witherbee) True. They have one child: Edna Caroline, b. in Boston, 9 July, 1910.

94. WILLIAM LESLIE was born 29 Jan., 1818; died in Clyde, Kan., 18 June, 1899. He was a farmer in Patten, Me., and married Sarah Kneeland.

Children of William and Sarah Leslie :

150. LUCY CAROLINE, b. 14 Feb., 1843; d. 22 Sept., 1875; m. 7 Dec., 1865, Alfred Herman Rowe of Harrison, Me. He m., 2d, widow Mary I. Leslie, No. 152. Had : (1) Herman Leslie, b. Harrison, 22 Nov., 1866; m. Emilie Waters of Patten, and had Mabel, Lewis, Roger, Barbara, Alfred, Cedric, Eleanor, Alfred, and four others. (2) Henry Clayton, b. in Patten, 13 Dec., 1867; m. Alice Waters of Patten; no issue. (3) Bertrand Charles, b. 18 Jan., 1869. (4) Alfred Herbert, b. 20 July, 1872. (5) Elizabeth Gleason, b. 29 June, 1874; m. Edwin S. Woodbury of Patten.
151. MELVIN, b. 1845; served in Civil War; d. 14 Feb., 1873, aged 28; m. Mary Inez Stimpson. She m., 2d, A. H. Rowe, No. 151. Had : (1) Arthur Cheney, b. 4 May, 1871; d. 4 May, 1899. (2) Melvin Wilson, b. 19 Nov., 1872, in Patten; was mail-carrier; m. 12 Jan., 1895, in Patten, Effie Gertrude Anderson, b. Patten, 25 March, 1875, to David and Frances Jane (Botting) Anderson (No. 140); no children.
152. CHARLES FULLER, b. 16 April, 1847, in Patten; d. in Clyde, Kan., 30 May, 1912.
153. HATTIE, b. about 1849; d. 28 Oct., 1861, aged 12 yrs.
154. WM. PEABODY, b. about 1 Jan., 1851; d. 11 Sept., 1852, in Patten, aged 1 yr. 9 mos.
155. WM. PEABODY, b. in Patten; d. 13 Jan., 1882.

96. ESTHER IVES LESLIE was born 28 Oct., 1821. She married, 31 March, 1846, Luther Blackwell, born 26 March, 1818, in Fairfield, Me., and died 1 Aug., 1865, in Patten. He was a carpenter and a farmer. "Aunt Esther" was her family historian. From memory she wrote extensively, reciting and explaining much family history to Dr. F. D. Leslie, No. 173, as herein quoted. She died in Patten, 28 Nov., 1911.

Children of Luther and Esther Ives Blackwell :

156. SAMUEL THOMAS, b. 9 Sept., 1850, in Patten. He has kept, at the same place, Central Sq., East Boston, a boarding house and restaurant for 27 years. He m., 23 March, 1879, Alice

Maria Billings, b. 1 Jan., 1858. Had: (1) James Edward, b. 15 Feb., 1880, now unm.; (2) Louisa Wyman, b. 3 Aug., 1885, now m.

157. RUSSEL CHASE, b. in Patten, 10 Jan., 1853. He is a clerk in the furniture trade in Seattle, Wash., and is unm.
158. EMMA JANE, b. 25 Nov., 1856, and d. in 6 years.
158. MARY ELIZA, b. 10 July, 1860, and d. in 1 year.
160. MARIETTA, b. 16 Jan., 1863. Was by trade a dressmaker, and d., unm., at the age of 39 years.

97. JAMES BOLLOCK LESLIE was born in Claremont, N. H., 23 June, 1823, and died in Bangor at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Mitchell, 27 Feb., 1900, and was buried in Patten. He was employed twenty-five years by William McCrillis of Bangor to explore, survey and estimate the value of forests in Maine and New Brunswick, and to care for the same as a practical lumberman. He married, first, Cynthia Kneeland, born 4 July, 1826; died in 1880 in Patten; married, second, Margarette Sanlieur, born in Nova Scotia in 1850.

Children of James B. and Cynthia Leslie:

161. JAMES WARREN, b. in Patten, 30 Jan., 1851; d. in Bangor, 4 May, 1911; was an operator in real estate and lumber; m. 1st, May, 1876, in Mattawamkeag, Me., Clara Ella Joy, who d. 6 June, 1888, dau. of Edmund and Eliza (Richardson) Joy; m. 2d, Mrs. Frances Jane (Batting) Anderson (No. 135); no children. Children by 1st wife: (1) Mary Louise, b. 7 March, 1877; (2) Raymond Everett, b. 15 May, 1878; (3) Cora Mabel, b. 18 Oct., 1880; (4) Emery Closson, b. 25 Feb., 1883; (5) Edmund Warren, b. 22 Aug., 1885; (6) a son, b. at the death of his mother and adopted by his aunt, Mrs. Rives Mitchell.
162. DAVID T., b. 2 Nov., 1853; d. in 1856.
163. LOUISA CUMMINGS, b. 27 July, 1855; m. 10 Sept., 1879, Rives Mitchell; adopted Rives Herbert Mitchell, b. 15 June, 1887(?); living in Bangor, Me.
164. CHARLES ARTHUR, b. 23 Oct., 1857; said to be living in Sharon, Mass.; m. Mannie H. Saulin, 8 Jan., 1884. Had: (1) Eva Maud, b. 20 Sept., 1884; (2) Ethel Louise, b. 15 Aug., 1890.
165. SAMUEL CHASE, b. 13 Feb., 1859; m., Nov., 1883, Julia A. Meniner, and had Freeman Chase, b. Nov., 1884.

Child of James B. and Margarette Leslie:

166. ESTHER ISABELLA, b. in Nova Scotia, 15 Aug., 1882.

98. SAMUEL CHASE LESLIE was born in Salem, Mass., 2 Oct., 1826, and died in Spokane, Wash., 17 June, 1906. He married in Patten, 14 Oct., 1852, Mary Ann Dolbier of North New Portland, Me., who died in Spokane, 12 Sept., 1899. His parents moved to Lincoln, Me., in 1830, and in 1836 to Patten. He attended school in those towns and a year in Patten Academy, and then was employed by a lumber concern. His family went to Kingsfield, Me., in 1856, and engaged in farming and lumbering, and ten years later to Eustis. In 1870 he went to Lewiston for the better educational privileges for his children. In 1891, he went to Spokane, where some of his children were already located.

Children of Samuel C. and Mary A. Leslie :

167. MARY ELDORA, b. in Patten, 5 Oct., 1853; m. 1st, in Lewiston, Me., 11 May, 1873, DeForest M. Nelson; m. 2d, 1 Jan., 1895, Henry Pendleton Hull of Kendrick, Idaho.
168. SAMUEL CHASE, b. in Patten, 12 July, 1855. After his schooling, he began clerking in a grocery and became a partner. Later he engaged in real estate and lumbering in Bangor. He d. in Lewiston, 8 Oct., 1908.
169. ELIZA EMMA, b. 16 April, 1859; m. 21 June, 1881, Joseph Henry Fisher. Their home is in Lewiston, Me. Had: (1) Joseph Otto, b. 31 March, 1882; grad. at the U. S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., 1902; post grad. 1907; 1914 commanding 4th squadron of submarine flotilla; watch officer on the *Raleigh* at Corea in Russian-Japanese war; chief engineer on the *Arethusa* when the U. S. fleet made its famous voyage around the world; the Navy chooses ten alumni yearly for special study; his investigation saves thousands of dollars yearly in the handling and use of coal. (2) Walter Leslie, b. 6 Feb., 1884; grad. at Bates College, 1906; teacher in Carl Schurz High School, Chicago. (3) Leslie, b. 21 Oct., 1886; d. 11 Jan., 1890. (4) Jeremy, b. 6 June, 1887; grad. Lehigh University, 1911; now (1914) with Chicago, Milwaukee and Puget Sound Railway. (5) Franklin, b. 8 Nov., 1888; grad. Chicago University, 1912; University of Maine, 1913; began medical practice 9 Feb., 1914; located in Lewiston, Me. (6) Harold, b. 15 Dec., 1891; d. 20 March, 1901. (7) Esther Emily, b. 24 Feb., 1899.
170. ESTHER EMILY, b. Kingsfield, 16 April, 1859; became a successful insurance-business woman in New York State and in

Spokane, Wash.; m. in Rathdrum, Idaho, 2 April, 1892, James N. Glover of Spokane.

171. MINA BELLE, b. in Kingsfield, 8 Oct., 1862; educated in High School, Lewiston; m. in Lewiston, 9 Jan., 1889, Lester A. Rowell, contractor and builder of Berlin, N. H. Had: (1) Mina, b. in Lewiston, 27 Dec., 1889; grad. Spokane High, and took a teacher's state diploma, 1813; now teaching in Aberdeen, Wash. (2) Edna, b. in Berlin, N. H., 26 Oct., 1891; grad. Spokane High, 1909, and is of Class '15 in Whitman College, Walla Walla. (3) Leslie Eugene, b. in Berlin, N. H., 31 July, 1896; grad. Spokane High, 1913; is bank clerk at Spokane, where Mrs. Rowell now resides.
172. DELIA ANN, b. in Kingsfield, 3 Aug., 1864; educated at Lewiston High; m. in Lewiston, 11 June, 1890, Edwin A. Smith of Auburn, Me. In 1892, the family removed to Spokane, their present home. Their child, Edith Dorcas, b. Auburn, 24 March, 1892, grad. at Spokane High, 1910; at Whitman College, 1914, and same year at Whitman Conservatory of Music; is now a member of the faculty.
173. WILLIAM FRANKLIN, b. in Eustis, 13 Aug., 1867; grad. Lewiston High; began hardware trade in Lewiston, and in 1891 continued in Spokane; m. in Spokane, 2 May, 1900, Inez Leone Maxwell of Lewiston, Me., who d. 1 July, 1910. Had: (1) Mary Louise, b. 23 July, 1901. (2) Maxwell Franklin, b. 24 Oct., 1902. (3) Inez Leone, b. 13 Aug., 1904. (4) Marian Chase, b. 19 Sept., 1906. (5) Mildred Dorcas, b. 29 May, 1908.

99. JOHN P. LESLIE was born 13 Sept., 1828, and died 4 March, 1888. He married in October, 1854, Sarah Elizabeth Cary, who was born in January, 1835, and died 3 May, 1876. While wrestling in his boyhood, he broke his leg, and was lame ever after. He conducted a country store in Patten, Me., for many years. He was "quiet, industrious, and upright in all his business and social relations."

Children of John P. and Sarah E. Leslie :

174. CORA WALKER, b. 26 June, 1856; m. 19 Oct., 1879, Charles Warren Wescott, b. 4 April, 1855. Had: (1) Winifred Elizabeth, b. 24 Aug., 1880; m. 17 Dec., 1877, Herbert Nelson Gardner of Patten. (2) Lena May, b. 24 Nov., 1883; d. 29 March, 1885. (3) Thurman Cary, b. 27 Feb., 1887; m. 15 April, 1914, Daisy Holt of Raleigh, N. C. (4) Stanley Leslie, b. 26 Jan., 1889. (5) Clifford Walker, b. 10 Jan, 1891. (6) Chester Eads, b. 4 Aug., 1893; d. 11 April, 1895.

175. LENA COLUMBIA, b. 24 July, 1858; d. 21 April, 1885; m. 23 May, 1880, Willy Tool Cobb of Patten, who was b. 23 May, 1854, and had Lena Columbia, b. 5 April, 1885, who. m. Jesse Edward Cunningham, b. 17 May, 1873, and had Dorothy Louise, b. 18 June, 1908.
176. ILBER EADS, b. 26 July, 1863; m. 1st, 19 Dec., 1885, Agnes L. Whitehouse, who d. 24 Oct., 1886; m. 2d, 2 Feb., 1889, Frances Ethel Wheaton, who was b. 23 June, 1867, and had Cora Agnes, b. 26 Oct., 1889.

100. SYLVESTER ZINA LESLIE was born in Lincoln, Me., 11 July, 1831, and died in Hyde Park, Mass., 18 Dec., 1901. He was a stair-builder and woodworker. He married, 5 Oct., 1855, Isabell Leighton Huston, who was born in Clinton, Me., 21 Jan., 1835, and is living in Hyde Park. Her father, Samuel Huston\*, was born in Clinton, 15 March, 1805, and died in Patten, 21 Oct., 1893; her mother was Harriet Tuttle, born in Pittsfield, Me., 5 Aug., 1810, married 4 Dec., 1829, and died in Patten.

Children of Sylvester Z. and Isabell L. Leslie :

177. FREELAND DAVID, b. in Patton, 29 June, 1858.
178. IDA MAY, b. in Patten, 5 Feb., 1860; d., unm., in Hyde Park, 2 April, 1914.

121. JANE LESLIE was born in Newbury, 13 May, 1831, and died there 2 Nov., 1913. She married, 4 July, 1852, Edwin Reuben Cobleigh, a lawyer in West Concord, Vt., born 25 Dec., 1830, in St. Johnsbury, to Reuben Boyce and Mehitable (Adams) Cobleigh, and died 9 Sept., 1857.

Children of Edwin R. and Jane Cobleigh :

179. A SON, who d. young.
180. HERBERT EUGENE GORDON, b. in St. Johnsbury, 20 Nov., 1854; m. Ruhamah Batchelder James, b. in Newbury, 29 May, 1856, to Alvah Chase and Nancy White (Peach) James. Had: (1) Alvah Edwin, b. in Newbury, 19 Feb., 1890; (2) George Leslie, b. 4 Oct., 1897.

122. MARY PEAKE LESLIE was born in Newbury 26 March, 1833. She married in Newbury, Vt., 19 Sept., 1854, Samuel Wells, born in Milton, Vt., 23 Sept., 1821, and died 30 Jan., 1878.

\*A member of the Masons 66 years, and at death was probably the oldest Mason in the State.

## Children of Samuel and Mary P. Wells :

- 181. A SON, b. in 1859; d. in infancy.
- 182. DORA, b. 4 Oct., 1862. Lives in Chicago, Ill.
- 183. WILLIAM, b. 25 March, 1868; d. 24 March, 1869.
- 184. EMMA LESLIE, b. 11 June, 1871. Lives in Chicago, Ill.

123. EMMALINE LESLIE was born in Newbury, Vt., 7 May, 1835, and married in Montpelier, 22 Aug., 1855, Stephen Freeman, born in Barre, 18 April, 1821, to Stephen, a lawyer, and Esther (French) Freeman. Freeman, Jr., was treasurer of the Farmers' Mutual Fire Ins. Co., and practiced law for the company, making a specialty of insurance law. He died in Montpelier, 13 April, 1872. [Mr. Freeman's first wife was Lucy Elizabeth Harthan, born in Chicopee, Mass., 28 Sept., 1832; married there 2 Nov., 1853; died in Ogdensburg, N. Y., 22 Aug., 1859; only child, Lizzie May, born 31 Oct., 1856, and married George W. Leslie, No. 125.] Mrs. Freeman has one of Rev. George Lesslie's Thanksgiving sermons in the original manuscript.

## Children of Stephen and Emmaline Freeman :

- 185. MARY LESLIE, b. in Montpelier, 1 Aug., 1865 or 6; m. Moses French of Solon, Me. Had: (1) Esther Dora; (2) Roger Maitland.
- 186. STEPHEN, b. in Montpelier, 12 Dec., 1869; m. Josephine Walter of Wabash, Ind. Lives in Syracuse, Ind. Had: (1) Stephen; (2) Lucy; (3) Margaret.

127. HELEN MARIA LESLIE was born in Newbury 14 July, 1843, and married 7 Jan., 1880, as the third wife of, Silas Worthen, who was born in Orange, Vt., 27 March, 1826, to Samuel and Susan (Owen) Worthen. [Samuel was born near Newport, N. H., a territory sparsely settled, 28 April, 1797; went to Barre, Vt., when four years old, was a farmer, and died 1 July, 1882. Silas Worthen married, first, Abigail Curtis, both of Orange, 15 Nov., 1850, who died 20 Feb., 1855, aged twenty-five years and ten months, leaving one child, Emma, born 15 Nov., 1851, and married Edwin Cutler, 7 Oct., 1874; married, second, Mrs. Eliza Perkins, 1 March, 1857, who died 18 Nov., 1878, aged fifty years and ten months, leaving child Altie May, born 9 June, 1868, and married,



1912, a Gove of E. Calais, Vt.] Mr. Worthen was a farmer in Newbury, where he died 3 May, 1889. There were no children by the last marriage.

128. GEORGE WILLIAM LESLIE was born in Newbury, Vt., 14 Oct., 1847. He occupied a clerkship in the National Life Insurance Company of Vermont. He married in Montpelier, 11 April, 1880, Lizzie May Freeman, born in Ogdensburg, N. Y., 31 Oct., 1856, to Stephen and Lucy Elizabeth (Harthan) Freeman (No. 123).

Children of George W. and Lizzie M. Leslie:

187. HARTHAN FREEMAN, b. in Montpelier, 28 April, 1881. He occupies the clerkship vacated by his father in the National Life Ins. Co.

188. MARGARET EMMA, b. in Montpelier, 15 June, 1883. She is a stenographer for the Fidelity Ins. Co. of Montpelier. Both she and Harthan reside with their mother.

126. HORACE GRANVILLE LESLIE, M. D., was born in Haverhill, N. H., 13 April, 1842, and died in Amesbury, Mass., 22 Aug., 1907. He married in Salisbury, now Amesbury, 28 Feb., 1866, Helen Matilda Glines, born in Northfield, N. H., 11 Sept., 1844, to Obediah, a farmer, and Mary Ann (Plummer) Glines. Mrs. Leslie is living in Amesbury. Doctor Leslie was associate surgeon in the army of the Tennessee. He began the practice of medicine in 1868. He was an agricultural and literary lecturer, a magazine writer and poet, and was state representative in 1890 and 1891. He was consulting surgeon of the Anna Jaques hospital and consulting physician of the Danvers Insane Hospital. He was also president of the local Park Association, trustee of the Amesbury Public Library, member of the American Medical Association, the Massachusetts and North Essex Medical Societies, the Arizona Natural Historical Society, and president of the Bartlett County and Village Improvement Societies. He was a 32nd degree Mason, held several offices, and many years was Prelate. He was chief of the Scotch Clan of Leslies in the United States from 1897. He was "over six feet tall and squarely built."

We had valuable correspondence with him, and recent-



ly his widow placed all his voluminous American and English correspondence at our service.

Children of Horace G. and Helen M. Leslie :

189. GRACE LEANORA, b. in Pennacook, N. H., 2 Feb., 1867.

190. HERBERT GRANVILLE, b. in Amesbury, 14 Aug., 1871. He prepared for college at the Lyndonville (Vt.) Institute, and graduated from the Harvard Medical College, 1897. He is in medical practice in Amesbury, where he has been school physician, on the school board and board of health. He m., 7 June, 1900, Lila Blanche Hardy, b. in Beverly, 22 Feb., 1879, to William Bray and Sadie Jane (Stevens) Hardy. Had: (1) Gretchen Walgrave, b. 13 May, 1901; (2) Paul Hardy Granville, b. 9 June, 1903.

127. MARY MARIA LESLIE was born in Topsham, Vt., 12 Nov., 1849. She married in Lynnfield, Mass., 10 Nov., 1875, George Gilman Adams, who was born in Salmon Falls, Me., 26 Aug., 1850, to Benjamin Gilman and Sophia (Nutter) Adams. Mr. Adams is an architect in Lawrence, Mass. They have no children.

136. SELWYN GOODHUE LESLIE was born in Lowell, 20 June, 1859, and died in Auburn, Me., 26 Nov., 1899. He had four trades—shingle-sawyer, edge-trimmer on shoes, stationary engineer, and cabinet-maker. He was a few years a manufacturer of furniture in Gardiner. He married, first, in Hallowell, Me., 26 June, 1880, Annie Louisa Jackson, who died 5 Jan., 1894, in Gardiner. He married, second, Hattie A. Withers, born in Nashua, N. H., 15 Nov., 1861, and now living.

Children of Selwyn G. and Annie L. Leslie :

191. HATTIE MARY LIVERMORE, b. in So. Gardiner, 12 May, 1883; d. 23 July, 1889.

192. EDGAR SELWYN, b. in So. Gardiner, 24 March, 1881; m. in Manchester, N. H., 4 May, 1905, Elizabeth Moulton Langmaid, b. to Edward and Jacintha Maria Langmaid. He is a photographer and lives in Manchester, N. H. Had: Dorothy May, b. 6 June, 1906.

153. CHARLES FULLER LESLIE, M. D., was born in Patten, Me., 16 April, 1847, and died in Clyde, Kansas, 30 May, 1912, of heart failure. He was educated in Patten Academy, of which he was principal a few years

later. He then studied at Phillips Exeter Academy, N. H. He studied medicine at *Dartmouth* and at *Bowdoin*, where he received the degree of M. D. He practiced eight years in Sunapee, N. H., and two in Windsor, Vt. His failing health took him to Clyde, Kan., where he practiced twenty-six years, including the day before his death. He was a member of the International Association of Railway Surgeons. He joined the Congregational church when about sixteen, the Presbyterian in Clyde, and for fifteen years was ruling elder. He married in Cornish, 4 May, 1875, Miss Ellen Janet Balloch, who was born 30 Sept., 1849, and died in Clyde, 14 July, 1913. She was daughter of William and Nancy Jane (Deming) Balloch.

Children of Charles F. and Nancy J. Leslie:

193. WILLIAM BALLOCH, b. in Sunapee, 2 March, 1878, and is a lawyer in Clyde; unm.

194. ALICE CHASE, b. in Sunapee, 3 Sept., 1880; unm.

173. FREELAND DAVID LESLIE, M. D., was born 29 June, 1858. When eleven years old, he went with his parents to Boston; studied in the public schools, including the English High, and graduated from the Boston University School of Medicine, with the degree of M. D., in 1879. He began practice in Clinton, Mass., June, 1880, and continued five years; then went abroad and took special courses in the hospitals of Vienna, Berlin, Heidelberg and Paris, himself and wife spending two years in Europe. In 1888, he located permanently in practice of medicine in Milton, Mass., where he has served on the board of health and two terms on the school board. He is a member of the Massachusetts Homeopathic Medical Society, of Macedonian Lodge of F. and A. Masons, of which he was the first Master, and of Dorchester Lodge of I. O. O. F. He was District Deputy Grand Master of the Fourth Massachusetts Masonic District for 1913-14. As a physician he has an extensive practice.

He married, 14 Sept., 1881, Georgianna Shepard of Canton, Mass., born there 25 April, 1852, to James Stratton and Mary (Belcher) Shepard.

We are indebted to Dr. Leslie for the complete line of descendants of William Leslie, No. 11. The doctor very

generously placed to our use all his valuable Leslie collections.

Children of Dr. Freeland D. and Georgianna Leslie :

195. BERNARD SHEPARD, b. in London, Eng., 2 Dec., 1885; was educated in the Milton public schools and the private schools of Prof. Hopkinson and Prof. De Meritte of Boston, and grad. at the Mass. Institute of Technology with degree of S. B., in 1908. He is engaged with the United States Shoe Machinery Co. of Boston, Chicago, and Beverly.
196. HOWARD CLIFFORD, b. in Milton, 4 Nov., 1888. At twelve, entered Milton Academy, and grad. in 1907; then entered Class '11 of Harvard University and took degree of A. B.; is engaged in banking in Boston.
197. FREELAND HUSTON, b. in Milton, 7 Nov., 1890. He was educated in the Milton public schools and Milton Academy; then Harvard, class '12, with degree A. B.; then two years with "Tech;" grad. 1914 with S. B.; is with the Submarine Signal Co., Boston.

## THE LESLIE FAMILY IN ESSEX COUNTY, NOT DESCENDED FROM JAMES, OF TOPSFIELD.

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BY M. V. B. PERLEY.

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BENJAMIN LESLIE was born in Derryfield, N. H., 24 May, 1776, and died 27 March, 1835. He is understood to have been a pensioner. He married, first,\* in Chester, N. H., 15 Nov., 1798, Sally Flint, born in Wilmington, Mass., 15 March, 1774, to David and Mary. She died in Haverhill, Mass., 2 April (not 21 Aug.), 1828, aged 54 years. This couple sold real estate in Haverhill, Mass., 22 Aug., 1817, and signed the deed† Benjamin (without the F. or Franklin) and Sally Leslie. Benjamin married, second, in Haverhill, 15 Dec., 1828, Lydia Bradley, who died 13 Feb., 1854.‡

Children of Benjamin and Sally Leslie :

1. SALLY, b. in Newport, Vt., 20 Nov., 1799.
2. NANCY, b. in Whitehall, N. Y., 26 June, 1802. Her birth is registered in Danvers, Mass. She m. in Haverhill, — Dec., 1823 (Haverhill rec., 22 Dec., 1824), John Harwood (not Howard), b. to Ezra and Nancy, 14 Aug., 1799. [Hezekiah Flint was made guardian of John Harwood, 15 years old, son of Ezra, 4 Aug., 1814.—*Probate Rds.*, Vol. 386: 61.] Had, born in Haverhill:—(1) Frances, b. 18 Feb., 1824. (2) Harriet Brown, b. 2 Dec., 1827; d. in Malden, 20 Sept., 1840. (3) Ezra Orin, b. 25 Jan., 1830. (4) Louisa, b. 21 Oct., 1832. (5) Lydia Ann, b. 26 Nov., 1835; d. 26 Dec., 1836. (6) Andrew Jackson, b. 18 Dec., 1837.

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NOTE. Mr. C. A. Harwood of Lynn, Mass., wrote: "This family of Leslies came from the Scotch Highlands." From Benjamin's several sojourns he seems to have been a millwright, and took his family with him on long jobs.

\*Haverhill rds. read: m. Sally Flint [before 1813].

†Registry of Deeds, book 214: 133.

‡Essex County Probate Files, Nos. 16725 and 45259.

3. LOUIS, b. in Derryfield, 3 Oct., 1805.
  4. [MATTHEW F., b. —; m. in Salem, Mass., 27 Aug., 1832, Caroline H. Nichols.]
  5. MARY, b. in Bradford, Mass., 27 Aug., 1810. [Mary m. in Haverhill, 21 Nov., 1837, Moses Harriman.]
  6. Benjamin Franklin, b. Haverhill, 24 Jan., 1813.
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CHARLES LASLIE, aged 25, of Lowell, born in Nova Scotia, married in Nashville (New Nashua, N. H.), 29 Nov., 1851, Lucinda A. Burbank, aged 19, of Lowell, born in Chatham, N. H. Had: (1) Jennie, b. 14 Aug., 1852; (2) Lucinda, b. 10 Oct., 1855.

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CHARLES LESLIE, painter, born in Lowell; married Sophia ——. Had: (1) Sophia, b. in Lowell; m. (æ. 25) 1855, Carl August Siegesmond (æ. 32), musician, b. in Germany. (2) Mary Jane, b. in Lubec, Me. [1834]; m. (æ. 18), 25 April, 1852, George S. Kames (æ. 25), actor. (3) John, b. in Orford, N. H. [1835]; machinist; m. (æ. 33), 1868, Catherine E. White (æ. 22), b. in Bath, N. H., to Peter and wife Rebecca. (4) Arabella Victoria, b. 19 Nov., 1844.

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GEORGE LESSLIE, b. 14 Feb., 1826; d. 14 June, 1844, in Framingham, Mass.

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GEORGE LASLIE of Cambridge, Mass., m. in Malden, Mass., 1 Oct., 1825, Sally Upham of Malden, b. 7 Feb., 1806, to Ezra Upham of Herkimer, N. Y., and wife Susannah Smith of Coleraine.—*N. E. Hist. Gene. Reg., Vol. 23.* Had:

1. SUSAN ELVIRA, of Newburyport, m. 9 Feb., 1854, Frederick Warren Baker, machinist, b. 5 Aug., 1829.
  2. SARAH AMELIA, b. in Lynn, 3 Sept., 1834; m. in Lowell, 8 July, 1861, George M. Munn, gunsmith.
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GEORGE LASLY and four other persons from Gray, Me., and two others from New Gloucester, went into Rustford in 1786. In 1787, Lasly moved his family there. In

1790, by the U. S. census, the family of "George Lasly" consisted of 1 male over 16 years of age, 2 under 16, and 1 female. "It is almost certain" that he was a Revolutionary soldier. In 1794, his total state tax was 5s. 5d.; poll, 10s.; real estate, 3s. 2d. 2f.; personal, 1s. 4d. 2f., and only 3 of the community each paid more. In 1796 his state tax was \$1.05. He was a subscriber (second on the list), in 1795, for a town incorporation. He died in 1800.

In 1803-4, Amasa Lesley and William Lesley, who were orphans at 14 and 16 years, are called sons of the old settlers. In 1807, both were petitioners for the incorporation of their church. It is reported that William went to New York, married, and died there without issue. Amasa married Abigail Thomas of Sidney, Me. They had children: William Lafayette, b. 28 July, 1830, in Waterville or Carmel, Me., and died in Haverhill, Mass., 29 July, 1900, aged 70 years, 1 day. His wife was Sarah E. Lewis, a native of Sidney, Me. Their son is Perley Leslie of Haverhill, president of the Leslie Dry Goods Co. Perley Leslie's first wife was Catherine W. Boardman, born in Haverhill, and died there 24 Jan., 1907. His second wife is Annie G. Morse, who is also a native of Haverhill. Joseph, brother to William Lafayette, married Sarah Dudley, and had Eugene, oldest son (now of Granby, Colo.), and Alice Bradford, who, born in Danforth, Me., 31 Oct., 1860, married L. R. Tucker of Basalt, Colorado.

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JONAS LESLEY, according to the U. S. census of 1790, was living then in Raby, now Brookline, N. H., having a family of one male over 16 years, three males under 16, and four females. Jonas Lesley of Newburyport married there, 6 Dec., 1801, Susannah Lindsey. Jonas, innkeeper: sold real estate, 12 Sept., 1805, for \$900, to Joseph Bartlett of Newbury, yeoman. Children, born in Newburyport: (1) George Lindsey, 6 Oct., 1802; (2) Susannah Caroline, 26 Dec., 1803; (3) Wm. Henry, 9 Nov., 1806.

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JOSEPH LESLIE, married 26 Dec., 1808, in Seabrook, N. H., int. in Newburyport, Hannah Raymond of Hamp-

ton Falls, doubtless daughter of Lt. Joseph Raymond of Hampton Falls, who married 16 April, 1784, Hannah Dodge. Had :

1. HANNAH DODGE, b. 2 July, 1810.
2. JOSEPH RAYMOND, b. 2 March, 1812.
3. EUNICE DODGE, b. 10 Feb., 1818.
4. SARAH SMITH, b. 18 June, 1820; d. 2 April, 1821.
5. SARAH ELIZABETH, b. in Brookline, N. H., 14 Jan., 1828; m. in Brookline, 27 April, 1852, Newton Worcester Colburn, b. in Brookline, 29 April, 1827. Had (1) Nellie, b. 21 Oct., 1860; m. 10 April, 1888, John Dobson. (2) Grace E., b. 14 Oct., 1862.

JOSEPH LESLIE had in Hollis, N. H., a family of two males over 16 years, one male under, and three females, 1790. — *U. S. Census*.

SAMUEL LESLIE, a cooper, married (int. in Newburyport) Betsey Swain. He enlisted 10 Jan., 1814 as a sergeant in Capt. McIntosh's company, U. S. Light Artillery, and died in the service in the line of his duty 29 Dec., 1814. Act of 16 April, 1816, a certificate for \$66 per annum from 15 Feb., 1815, to 15 Feb., 1820, or five years' half-pay in lieu of bounty land on account of his service, issued 12 Aug., 1817, to Betsey Lesley, guardian of his four children—Lucy Ann, Edward Swain, Betsey, and Mary Stone, of Essex County, Mass. No further data on file.

Children, born in Newburyport :

1. LUCY ANN, b. 17 April, 1802; m. 25 June, 1826, George Fitz.
2. EDWARD SWAIN, b. 14 July, 1804, of Lowell; m. in Newburyport, 27 May, 1830, Sarah Frothingham; and had: (1) Edward, 6 Jan, bp. 19 May, 1833; d. 20 June, 1834, æ. 1 yr. 5 mos.; (2) Sarah, bp. 19 July, 1835; (3) Edward, bp. 18 Jan., 1838; (4) Mary Ann, bp. 15 ———, 1840; (5) Elizabeth, bp. 19 Nov., 1843; (6) Lucy Maria, b. 11 June, 1846.
3. ELIZABETH SMITH, b. 10 Oct., 1807; m. 3 Jan., 1847, Charles Butler, widower, æ. 55, baker, son of Nathaniel and Ann.
4. MARY STONE, b. 18 June, 1811; d. 30 Nov., 1838.

JAMES C. LESLIE, Newton Ave., Lynn, came from Scotland about 1888; has six children: Alfred C., David M., I. Isabelle (professional nurse), James, and William S. His father Andrew he left in Scotland, and his grandfather, also named Andrew.

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OWEN W. LESLIE, Lynn (1913), had a father Simeon and grandfather Jacob. His great-grandfather was first cousin to Col. Leslie of North Bridge fame, Salem. Owen's brothers: George, of Milford, Mass., and Theodore of Brooklyn, N. Y.

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EDWARD J. LESLIE and John P., Lynn (1913), and Edward James and Robert, Swampscott, are brothers.

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W. PARKER LESLIE, of Gloucester (1913), had father John Thomas, of Liverpool, N. S., and uncles John, Edward, Stephen, at the same address.

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JAMES LESLIE, Lynn, came from Scotland 25 years ago (1913); married, and had children; a widower now. He left in Scotland a father, Joseph, and an uncle Hugh.

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FRANK P. LESLIE, of Lynn, came from Scotland six years ago (1913), with wife and children: John, Alice, Ethel.









N. MANCHESTER,  
INDIANA

